



BEST FOR BOOKS

Power, politics and prose—America in print
PAGES 34,35



A SCUMBAG REPLIES

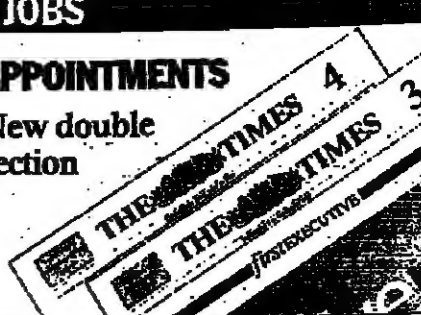
William Rees-Mogg on being denounced by the White House
PAGE 18



BEST FOR JOBS

NEW YEAR, NEW JOB
Dr Stuttford on the stress factor, PAGE 17
PLUS
Free personal profile
TOKEN 4 PAGE 38

APPOINTMENTS
New double section



Blow for patients awaiting surgery

Transplant of pig hearts to be banned

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

STEPHEN DORRELL will today announce a ban on pioneering surgery to transplant pig hearts to people after a government inquiry concluded that the procedure was too risky.

Doctors had hoped to carry out the first operations last autumn, but were forbidden to do so amid fears that the animal organs might carry viruses that could prove deadly to human beings.

Now the Health Secretary has decided that no trials involving people should take place yet, and that new laws are needed to establish a regulatory body to control experiments. An interim authority will be set up pending the legislation, which will have to wait until after the general election.

The decision will be a blow to thousands of people awaiting transplants, and especially to 25 Papworth Hospital patients who had been identified as the first potential recipients. The patients, who include cystic fibrosis sufferers, had been chosen from those showing an interest in receiving an animal organ if no human donor were available.

It will also be a great disappointment to the Cambridge-based company, Imutran, the world leader in the field, and it is possible that American, Japanese or Italian rivals might seize the lead.

Mr Dorrell reached his decision after an inquiry led by Professor Ian Kennedy of King's College London concluded that Imutran's work had not reached the stage



"He opted for the monkey heart transplant instead"

authority will be established. A similar arrangement was made to control in-vitro fertilisation clinics in the 1980s before the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act was passed in 1990.

The Health Secretary will also announce a three-month consultation period on the Kennedy report before final decisions are taken.

One of the biggest concerns about the proposed transplants is that viruses which are harmless to pigs might prove deadly if transmitted to people and even trigger an epidemic. However, Imutran claims that tests on the genetically modified pigs bred specially for transplant have uncovered no pathogens or retroviruses that pose a threat to health. It also points out that heart valves and insulin from pigs have been used to treat people for decades.

Imutran was set up 12 years ago by the Cambridge University immunologist David White and John Wainwright, director of the transplant service at Papworth. In 1995 their team became the first in the world to transplant pig hearts into monkeys. A pig's heart would normally be rejected within minutes, but the monkeys were still alive 60 days later. A second series of transplants using kidneys last year convinced the doctors that they had overcome the first major hurdle of rejection, although further work is needed to overcome the second and third stages of the rejection process and to minimise the risks of disease transmission.

Mr Dorrell will tell MPs that he has accepted those findings and that an interim

where it would be ethical to allow transplants to people. New laws were needed to control the work and a national regulatory body should be set up to approve experiments and monitor progress. The inquiry backed the research into the use of animal organs — or xenotransplantation — but said it would not offer a quick answer to the global organ donor crisis — at least 6,000 people are waiting for transplants in Britain and five times that number are on waiting lists in America. It also said that xenotransplants were too risky even to try experimentally. As well as the threat from animal viruses, there was too little evidence that animal organs would function for very long in their human hosts.

Mr Dorrell will tell MPs that he has accepted those findings and that an interim



Jeremy Bates, right, Britain's last great tennis hope, joins fans cheering on Tim Henman in his match with Guillaume Raoux yesterday

Henman wins over new army of fans

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT



Henman: success has generated a following

AS Tim Henman prepares to meet the American Michael Chang after his victory over Guillaume Raoux of France in the Australian Open, travel agents are preparing to cash in on the soaring popularity of the British player by organising trips to tennis tournaments across the world.

Just as there is huge interest in overseas cricket, rugby, football and athletics tours, so the recent performances of Henman, which have catapulted him to 14th ranking in the world, are opening up a new market. Suddenly, Britons have a tennis player worth

following. Mike Norris of Sportworld, Britain's leading specialist travel company, said Henman's growing success had generated enormous interest from fans.

"We are already working on the 1997 championships in Paris. We believe that because of Henman's success, there will be interest for both the French and the US Open and quite possibly other events on the professional tour."

"Many of our clients like the combination of watching a top-class sports event with a trip to an exotic location such as Paris or New York."

Henman's match early tomorrow will not be televised live in Britain. Highlights will be shown on Eurosport and BBC2.

Henman was cheered on yesterday by a vocal band of British fans similar to cricket's "Barney Army".

"I've been moving forward a lot more and that's been paying off," he said. Of Chang, he said: "He obviously has developed big shots into his game. But I do feel that if I can be aggressive, then maybe I can dictate."

Henman plots way, page 44



Chang in action in Australia yesterday

Princess tries to end mines row

Diana, Princess of Wales, has pleaded for an end to the political controversy over her support for a global ban on anti-personnel landmines.

Speaking during her visit to Angola on behalf of the Red Cross, the Princess said: "This is a distraction we did not need. All I'm trying to do is help." Page 3

Manchester gets runway go-ahead

Ministers have given the go-ahead for a second runway at Manchester's Ringway Airport as part of a £170 million scheme opposed by green activists and nearby residents. The 10,000ft runway will attract 50,000 new jobs and make the airport Britain's second largest. Page 2

Buyers The Times overseas
Australia \$20, Belgium 18, France 20, Germany 18, Italy 18, Japan 20, Korea 20, Spain 18, Sweden 18, Switzerland 18, USA 18, UK 18, Zimbabwe 18

The Times on the Internet
<http://www.the-times.co.uk>



TV & RADIO 42, 43
WEATHER 22
CROSSWORDS 22, 44

Labour doubts threaten millennium showpiece

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND DAMIAN WHITWORTH

THE centrepiece of Britain's millennium celebrations was in serious jeopardy last night as Labour demanded the right to review the project on coming to office.

The Millennium Exhibition in Greenwich faced a new threat because it was feared that private investors needed to support it would be driven away by uncertainty over Labour's intentions.

Jack Cunningham, the Shadow Heritage Secretary, told the Shadow Cabinet last night he could not endorse the scaled-down project. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, is backing Dr Cunningham in his extreme caution over the plan and agrees that there can be no blank cheques.

Millennium Commission sources said last night that the

review demand would drive away the private investors. One closely involved in the project said: "How are you meant to get sponsorship for a project which could be under review in two months? If Labour says it is committed to the project why is it putting it in jeopardy in this way?"

The Government wants to extend the life of the commission, which is running the project, for a year to enable more money from the National Lottery to underwrite the exhibition, whose cost has ballooned to £700 million from the original £200 million. But it says it will not put the necessary order before Parliament unless Labour guarantees to support it.

Dr Cunningham and his deputy Lewis Moonie are in-

sistent that a Labour government should be able to look at the project again if it comes to office in the spring.

Senior Labour sources said last night it was "utterly intolerable" that the Government should be seeking to put the onus on Labour for deciding whether or not the project went forward.

The revised budget put to Dr Cunningham yesterday was well over £100 million lower than the last — but Labour's fundamental demand is that it must have the right to look at the project in government. "That is the only prudent course we can take," a senior source said last night.

Some members of the Shadow Cabinet would prefer a series of exhibitions across the country.

Ford ready to axe one in three jobs

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY AND RUSSELL JENKINS

HUNDREDS of jobs are expected to be axed today at Ford's Halewood plant, for long a barometer of Merseyside's economic health and, for a generation, its dismal decline.

Up to 1,500 jobs of the 4,500-strong workforce are expected to go at the plant which once boasted 14,000 on the payroll and represented an engine for prosperity in the region.

Union leaders are arriving at Halewood today expecting to be told that the drastic restructuring plans, thrust out at Ford's Detroit headquarters, will mean the end of production of the Ford Escort at the plant and the end of the two-shift system.

The company wants to move to a single-shift system and is expected to "sell" the initiative at meetings this

morning as the only way to sustain activity at Halewood. It will tell workers that despite low labour costs, the plant is one of the least productive of Ford's sites in Europe.

Production of the Escort could be lost to other centres in Spain and Germany within 18 months, leaving Halewood free to concentrate on a new Ford. The new version of the Escort is due by 1999 when management has said that it will be produced at fewer assembly sites. Ford management at Detroit has said that restructuring is necessary but has promised that closure is not on the agenda.

The Transport and General Workers Union refused to comment. It is not expected to recommend strike action.

Jobless down, page 25

Scots get housing problem from wrong Aberdeen

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THIRTY-three steel Nissen huts ordered by the US Army and designed to withstand a bomb blast at 30 feet are on their way across the Atlantic. They were sent to Aberdeen, Scotland, instead of Aberdeen, Maryland.

The latest additions to the granite city's skyline are making the 4,000-mile journey because of an American shipping company's error that has left the huts' British distributor with a big

problem. The company normally sells between three and eight of the buildings a week and Ron Beck, a director, was disconcerted to learn that up to three months' supply was coming in a single shipment.

The cargo ship carrying them was unable to turn back when the mistake was discovered because she was dropping off consignments at various ports. The huts are expected to reach Aberdeen — founded by Robert Bruce, and Scotland's third largest city with a population of 219,220 — within three

weeks. They were made in Baltimore and had been ordered for the US base at Aberdeen — founded by an Edmund Law Rogers in 1852, population 13,500 — six miles down the Maryland coast. The journey should have taken 30 minutes by road.

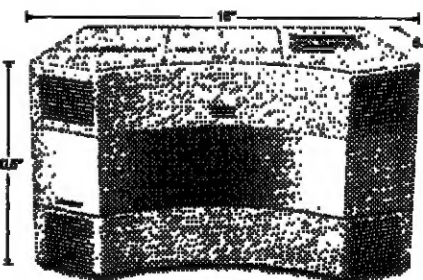
Now Mr Beck, of the Doncaster-based Blue Line Buildings, is trying to sell the arch-shaped huts to the citizens of Aberdeen. Yesterday he placed an advertisement in the local paper, *The Press & Journal*, inviting Aberdonians, who have a reputation for knowing a

barge when they see one, to buy them cheap.

The mistake happened when Mr Beck's firm ordered some huts to go to the military base in Maryland and others to go to an oil company in the Scottish Highlands. "There was a screw-up," he said. "I don't know how it happened, but there are far too many huts coming to Scotland. We have had words with the shipping company. I don't want to get them any more involved. They come from Pennsylvania: that is all I want to say about them."

Finally, you can expect superb sound wherever you are.

The Bose® Acoustic Wave® music system, the only thing that's limited is its availability.



Credit card-sized remote control makes it easy to enjoy hi-fi sound.

Bose introduces an easier, more convenient way to enjoy superb sound. Small and light, the Acoustic Wave® music system is a complete sound system. With two equalizers, three amplifiers, three speakers, an AM/FM stereo tuner, CD player and a credit card-sized remote control. Bose's patented acoustic waveguide® speaker technology delivers big, rich, lifelike sound. There are no cables to connect. No dials to adjust. Just plug it in and start enjoying it. Not found in any shops, this system is available only direct from Bose. For a free information pack, simply call freephone or send/fax the coupon below. Or to try it in your home for 14 days, satisfaction guaranteed, call:

0800 022 044

When calling, please quote reference number 5181.

Yes, Bose, it sounds good to me. Please send me more information about the Bose Acoustic Wave® music system and the 14-day, satisfaction-guaranteed home audition.

Name Mr/Ms/Ms.

Tel. day

eve

Address

Postcode 5181

Please return in an envelope to: Bose, Prepost TK 1020, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5UN.

No stamp necessary. Or fax to: 0181 894 7664.

هكذا من الأصل

Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares! A sketchwriter says his prayers

A small technical slip during Foreign Office Questions yesterday spoke volumes. Something went wrong with the sound-amplification system in the Commons Chamber. The fault was corrected in seconds, but it taught me something new.

Parliament's audio-system is antique but effective. Dangling from the high ceiling in the Chamber are scores of small microphones. No MP's mouth being, at any one time, too far from one of them. On a

lazy afternoon, as MPs shift and gape, the scene must be similar to the submarine view in a deep pond, as anglers' lines descend from the sky and dozens of old trout, opening and closing their mouths, eye the devices above with wary interest.

Boffins in a concealed box activate the microphones closest to whoever is speaking for as long as he speaks — then switch to the mikes nearest whoever replies.

Insert into the backs of all the benches, at ear level, are

hundreds of small loudspeakers, recessed behind ornate circular brass grilles smaller than soap dish. Individually they are muted, but the combined effect of some 500 of these is substantially to turn up the volume of the whole debate. When Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, speaks — or rather shouts — the volume reaches a level capable of perforating eardrums, and all but the stone deaf reach out in panic to muffle loudspeakers. Naturally, the automatic



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

amplification of the MP on his feet causes those reacting from a sedentary position to shout their heckles or hear-hears all the louder, turning up the volume of the background hubbub to match the speaker.

The consequence of this louder background noise is that speakers raise their own

volume to shout their audience. This causes the audience to raise the volume of jeers or cheers by a competing notch. The result is deafening.

Yesterday, while Labour's John Marek (Wrexham) was in mid-inquiry about British relations with Indonesia, his amplification suddenly failed. All at once, the volume

dropped. Dr Marek is not a rant, and for a moment the background noise in the Chamber (still adjusted for amplified sound) completely drowned this unshowy, rather rational speaker. Without his mike, he sank.

But not for long. Once the background writers realised the MP was now inaudible, they hushed their wittering. As our ears adjusted themselves to the new, subdued volume, Marek's voice regained our attention. Everybody else shut up. For the rest of his

Question, Marek enjoyed what, in 14 years at Westminster, he may never before have experienced: the sensation of being listened to by other MPs.

And I realised that there is no need for sound amplification in the Chamber. It is an intimate and surprisingly small place, there is no echo and the acoustics are good. The whole debate — complete with heckles and cheers — can be turned down to about a quarter of the volume at which, with amplification, it normally takes place. We can

still hear. Nothing is lost but the element of hysteria that goes with the shouting.

Perhaps the lesson has wider implications. If Tony Blair restricted himself to calling John Major disingenuous instead of "knee-deep in dishonour", maybe Mr Major could describe Mr Blair as changing his mind instead of betraying his principles: in which case Blair could call Major overcautious instead of spineless, and so on.

Just a thought; and one with not a snowball's chance in the months ahead.

Hygiene laws to be tightened after food poison scare

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH AND JAMES LANDALE

FOOD safety laws will be tightened and shop hygiene improved to combat future outbreaks of food poisoning in the wake of Scotland's *E. coli* 0157 epidemic which claimed 16 lives.

Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, yesterday published the results of an interim report by Professor Hugh Pennington, a senior microbiologist at Aberdeen University, and said he would make the resources available to implement many of the recommendations. There would be consultation on others. "The protection of public health is paramount," he said.

The 14-page report emphasised the need for further research into the deadly *E. coli* 0157 bacterium, called for improvements to disease surveillance systems, a tightening of existing food safety legislation and guidelines, and better systems for tackling any future crisis. The full report is expected next month.

However, the report stopped short of criticising the local authorities for their handling of the crisis and made no mention of the need for a separate food standards agency, which has been urged by Labour and the Scottish Consumer Council. The much-criticised five-day delay in the local authority's release of a list of outlets supplying suspect meat was referred to only obliquely in a call to place public health above commercial interests when issuing warnings.

Paul Santoni, the solicitor representing families of the victims, said the interim report left many questions unanswered. He was surprised that no criticism had been directed at the handling of the crisis by the authorities involved.

"On the ground there is a definite feeling that more could have been done to alleviate the pain and suffering," he said. "This is the most

virulent form of *E. coli* with the most significant effect on people. We want to know when the authorities identified this organism and when they started to take steps to prevent further spread to the public."

George Robertson, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, welcomed the report but asked why the Government had turned down earlier requests for research funding. He said it seemed to have taken the deaths of 16 people for ministers to act. "Is this not the classic way this Government treats every crisis it faces — ignore medical advice, react to



Forsyth pledged more funding for research

events rather than shaping them, and always too little, too late?"

Mr Forsyth rejected claims that the report's call for such widening changes could be seen as criticism of the Scottish Office's reaction to the outbreak. He also dismissed Labour calls for a food management agency as a way of helping to prevent further epidemics.

The report said research should be carried out as soon as possible into the prevalence of *E. coli* 0157 in Scottish animals, how it is transmitted, what its future incidence might be, and possible improvements to current DNA-based methods of identifying

it. Mr Forsyth refused to say how much this would cost but said he would find resources for all necessary research.

The report also called for changes to food legislation to minimise public health risks. These included consulting the industry on possible new licences for village shops and butchers which handle raw and cooked meat but which are not covered by existing meat hygiene regulations. New laws would also be considered for the physical separation of counters, equipment and staff on the same premises to prevent cross-contamination.

In a statement to the Commons, Mr Forsyth said that the recommendations had far-reaching implications which he had instructed officials to examine in consultation with consumers, health professionals, environmental health officers and retailers. He later indicated, however, that the Government had yet to decide if licensing was the best way forward.

Mr Forsyth told MPs: "Good lines of communication from local to central government, and timely release by local outbreak control teams of information to the public, are crucial."

Sixteen pensioners died and more than 400 people reported symptoms of the *E. coli* 0157 infection during Scotland's five-week food poisoning epidemic, the second worst on record in the world. No new cases have emerged in the past three weeks, according to the outbreak control team, led by Dr Syed Ahmed, consultant in public health medicine at Lanarkshire Health Board, the worst affected area.

However, one child is still in hospital in Glasgow and three elderly adults, who fell ill in the early stages of the epidemic, are receiving treatment in hospital in Airdrie. None is giving cause for concern.



Bishop Holloway has invoked a power rarely used

Church in Scotland bars 'flying bishop'

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE head of the Anglican Church in Scotland has banned one of the Archbishop of Canterbury's "flying bishops" from the pulpit to prevent further splits over the ordination of women priests.

The Most Rev Richard Holloway, Bishop of Edinburgh and Primate of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, has invoked a power rarely used under Canon Law to ban The Rt Rev Edwin Barnes from preaching or acting as a priest in Scottish Episcopal churches next month.

The Bishop Suffragan of Richborough is an opponent of women priests and is one of three Church of England bish-

ops appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury to minister to traditionalists opposed to the ordination of women. The Scottish Episcopal Church, which is independent of the Church of England, has around 60 women priests and has not appointed "flying bishops" believing it would create a church within a church.

Bishop Barnes was originally invited to Scotland by the Rev Paul Harvie, rector at St Salvador's Church in Dundee to preach on February 3 at the traditional Candlemas service. Father Harvie, 60, said the invitation to Bishop Barnes had had nothing to do with the ordination of women.

Bishop Barnes, who is attending the Church of England's house of bishops meeting in Liverpool, last night said he was surprised at the ban. "I found it a little odd. This sort of thing does not exist in other parts of the Anglican communion."

"I was not going as a bishop," he said, emphasising that he was going in a private capacity to talk about the situation as he understood it in the Anglican communion and to preach a straightforward Candlemas sermon.



Bishop Barnes: he was surprised by the ban

Manchester wins go-ahead for second-busiest airport

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

MINISTERS gave the go-ahead yesterday to a new runway for Manchester Airport, allowing it to become Britain's second busiest after Heathrow. The £170 million scheme is strongly opposed by green activists and by residents under the flight path.

The 3,050-metre second runway, running roughly parallel to the existing one, is forecast to attract 50,000 new jobs to the region and to handle 30 million passengers a year. John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, promised an "impressive package of proposals to reduce the ecological impact."

Environmental campaigners are expected to push for a

judicial review, while more extreme groups are threatening that two warriors are ready to stand in the way of the bulldozers across a swathe of Cheshire countryside to the south and east of the airport. Houses dating from 1620 are in the path.

The decision follows a 101-day public inquiry. Neil Hamilton, Tory MP for Tatton in Cheshire, said he was dismayed: "I am pleased that some environmental safeguards have been imposed, but they are not likely to be adequate."

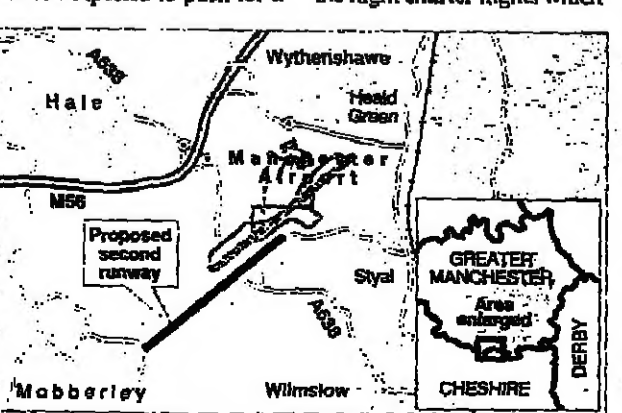
He claimed that the runway would be visible only with round-the-clock flying: "Manchester must not become the dumping ground for all the night charter flights which

cannot fly from Heathrow and Gatwick, where there are strict controls on numbers. My constituents deserve as much consideration as the residents of Berkshire and Sussex. I shall continue the fight to ensure that the runway is never built."

The Shadow Environment Secretary, Frank Dobson, welcomed the go-ahead to provide "a real boost to jobs and economic development in the North West."

The airport is owned by Greater Manchester's ten councils. The runway will be used mostly for departures, leaving the existing runway for arrivals. If one is out of service, then the other will be brought into play for both procedures so that the airport will never have to close.

Councillor Graham Stringer, chairman of the Manchester Airport Board, said that work would begin in the Spring, and that campaigners had exaggerated the environmental impact. He added: "The airport is already acknowledged as the economic motor of the region. The second runway is the biggest post-war economic boost to the region. It will create 50,000 new jobs — the equivalent employment potential of ten Nissan car plants."



Santer denies giving in over BSE

BY CHARLES BRENNER AND LEYLA LINTON

THE President of the European Commission yesterday denied giving in to "blackmail" by Britain in the BSE crisis and announced a shake-up in the Commission that will curb the powers of the agriculture division.

Jacques Santer was defending himself in Strasbourg against charges by a European Parliament investigation that he had surrendered to pressure from John Major last spring for a rapid easing of the embargo against British beef. The committee of inquiry alleged that Mr Santer acted last April under British pressure to lift the embargo on gelatine and other by-products although there was not enough scientific justification for the move.

"I had a lot of difficulty with the British and I was often threatened but I never gave in," he said. "I refused to allow myself to be influenced by political considerations or to give in to blackmail." The subsequent refusal of EU states to agree to the Commission proposal triggered Britain's campaign of non-cooperation in EU business which ended at the Florence summit last June.

The blackmail charge was one of a battery of accusations by the committee against the Commission and Britain over the epidemic since the late 1980s. Visibly uncomfortable under questioning, Mr Santer denied the committee's findings that the Commission had consistently played down the gravity of BSE and conspired with Britain in avoiding publicity that could damage the beef market.

He said he could not speak for the period before he arrived at the Commission in January last year, but he was convinced that "we would not have given priority to the market to the detriment of public health or carried out a deliberate policy of disinformation." He allowed, however, that "the Commission must accept criticism."

To end the confusion of priorities that arose in the BSE affair, the Brussels Commission would be reorganised to bring the control of food safety under separate management, probably under the consumer affairs division. Under the existing system, the agriculture section bears responsibility for the consumer health aspects of the industry.

Abbott renews attack on racism in NHS

Diane Abbott has renewed her attack on racism in the NHS by saying that black nurses are excluded from the best hospital jobs. The Labour MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington said that inexperienced graduates were forcing hard-working black nurses out of management positions.

Miss Abbott was criticised last year for denouncing the recruitment of "blonde, blue-eyed British girls" to Homerton Hospital, Hackney, instead of nurses from the Caribbean. In the *Nursing Standard* she says she wished the Royal College of Nursing put as much energy into defending its black members as it did in criticising her remarks. The RCN pointed to its "race and ethnicity committee. Gerald Malone, the Health Minister, demanded that Tony Blair take disciplinary action against Ms Abbott for claiming racism is driving black nurses out of the NHS.

Fears over nuclear dump

Plans for a nuclear dump near Sellafield have been put in doubt by the leaking of an internal document showing serious concerns about its viability. The memo, by a senior scientist at UK Nirex — the company responsible for disposing of nuclear waste — indicates that scientists working on the scheme are split over the best way to assess the safety of the proposed dump. The scheme is seen as vital for tackling increasing levels of nuclear waste. The document shows that to prove underground dumping is safe between 10 and 100 times more scientific data may be needed. The company has spent £200 million on the plan.

Long stretch for jail ship

A floating jail will be needed for at least three years to meet the accommodation crisis facing jails in England and Wales, the Prison Service admitted yesterday. Officials want to hold about 500 men on board the floating vessel which they plan to have moored in Portland harbour, Dorset, by end of March. Negotiations are under way to acquire the *Resolution*, currently moored in the Hudson River near New York.

Parent course sold out

A course on parenting, including lessons on how to discipline children without smacking them, has sold out. The seven-week programme, run by health workers in east Berkshire, was organised after a survey showed that 90 per cent of mothers and fathers found it difficult to be parents. More than 30 people have signed up for the £10 courses in Maidenhead, Bracknell and Windsor. They will be taught how to encourage, listen and talk to children.

Man seen with Zoe

Zoe Evans, the nine-year-old girl missing since Friday, may have been abducted by a shaven-headed man who was seen talking to her in a supermarket car park, police said last night. The man, in his late teens or early twenties, was later spotted walking closely behind Zoe down a footpath. The sightings, both around lunchtime on Saturday and within a mile of Zoe's home in Warminster, Wiltshire, were by two people who knew her by name.

Three shot in siege

Armed police surrounded a cottage close to the border with Northern Ireland yesterday after a German man allegedly shot a sheriff and his two officials who had called to evict him. Gerrit Isenberger apparently shot and injured Thomas Owens, the Cavan County registrar and sheriff, and his two officials as they arrived at the house outside the village of Bawnboy. Herr Isenberger lives there with his elderly mother. The siege was continuing last night.

Rock star to fight poll

Donnie Munro, lead singer of the Highland Gaelic rock group Runrig, will be officially endorsed on Monday as Labour's candidate to fight Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat, in Ross, Skye and Inverness West at the general election. Mr Munro, who was brought up in Skye, is the sole nominee for the Labour candidacy in the Highlands and Islands seat. The ballot result and his acceptance is a formality. Poll date speculation, page 10

Prison advisers praised

The Princess Royal praised "the creation of a full-time Citizens Advice Bureau at Wexhamwood Prison in west London. Seventy prisoners a month and some staff contact workers at the bureau. The Princess talked to a prisoner who was receiving advice on how he could get his sentence reduced. Officers left the cell as the Princess listened while the inmate met two CAB advisers.

US custody fight begins

Pauline and Ray Meadows of Poole, Dorset, have begun a transatlantic legal battle in an effort to gain custody of their grandchild. The couple whose daughter, Jenny, died in the United States in 1992, are trying to raise £5,000 to hire an American lawyer to fight for custody of their granddaughter, Jessica Kerwin, 5. The Meadows made a preliminary application to a court in Camden County, New Jersey.

First Irish divorce case

A terminally ill husband has become the first man to seek a divorce in the Irish High Court. The 58-year-old from Dublin wants to divorce his first wife and marry the woman with whom he lives. He claims he is entitled to a divorce under the Constitution. In November 1995, Ireland voted by a tiny majority to allow divorce in certain circumstances. The law comes into effect on February 27.

In the Diary piece "Off the road" (December 26) we incorrectly referred to Michael Hutchence "facing charges of opium possession". He does not, and no decision has yet been made by the Crown Prosecution Service whether to press charges. We apologise to Mr Hutchence.

THERE
IS ONLY ONE
SONY SALE.

The Sony MD-T5 Hi-Fi system features MiniDisc, 3 CD changer and tape. It is durable and shock resistant, and offers you digital recording, easy editing, quick track access and high quality digital sound.

	Normal Unit Price	SALE PRICE
SONY MD-T5 Hi-Fi system	£500	£499
SONY MD-3 Hi-Fi system without tape	£300	£299

Available from the Sound and Vision Department, Third Floor.
Personal shoppers only. Subject to availability.

SALE OPENING HOURS:
Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays now to 31st, 10am - 6pm.
Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays now to 31st, 10am - 7pm.
Last day Saturday 1st February, 9am - 7pm.

Harrods
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Harrods Ltd., Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7XL. Telephone 0171-730 1231.

هكذا من الأصل

Princess dismisses critics of anti-mine campaign

BY ALICE THOMSON
AND INGO GILMORE

DIANA, Princess of Wales, pleaded yesterday for an end to the political rumpus over her support for a global ban on anti-personnel landmines.

Speaking in Huambo during her visit to Angola on behalf of the Red Cross, which is campaigning for such a ban, the Princess said: "This is a distraction we did not need. All I'm trying to do is help."

In Britain, a defence minister admitted having spoken with journalists from two newspapers that had carried reports of ministerial anger at the Princess's remarks. However, Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, led a government move to calm things down.

Mr Rifkind said that the Princess's views differed little from government policy. Mr Rifkind said: "We support a multilateral universal ban on landmines. We don't export any landmines."

Earl Howe, an Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Defence, admitted that he had had lunch on Tuesday with journalists from *The Times* and the *Daily Telegraph*.

The newspapers said yesterday that one unnamed minister had called her a "loose cannon". Lord Howe insisted that he did not recognise the views referred to in the reports.

In a statement Lord Howe said that he had the "greatest admiration for her work". *The Times* stands by its report.

Several Tory MPs joined in the argument, expressing anger with the Princess for becoming involved in the Red Cross campaign.

However, Downing Street insisted that her reported remarks



The 7th Earl Howe, left, is one of the Government's most gentle and conscientious ministers (Alice Thomson writes). Until yesterday, when he acknowledged that he was the unnamed minister accused of criticising Diana, Princess of Wales, the junior Defence Minister had studiously avoided controversy.

Like many peers, Frederick Richard Penn Curzon rarely courts the press and is usually muddled up with the former Chancellor, Lord Howe of Aberavon. Although he was educated at Rugby and Christ Church, Oxford, he has risen through the ranks using his quiet, gentlemanly charm, rather than dazzling intellect. He spends hours poring over briefs and shrugs off hostile questioning at the dispatch box with a quiet smile and a list of facts.

At 45, he is the head of a distinguished naval family. He has three children, runs a dairy farm in Buckinghamshire and spent years at Bardsley Bank before becoming involved in politics. Since John Major became Prime Minister, Lord Howe has served as a whip and a frontbench spokesman on employment, transport, the environment, agriculture and defence.

were "not inconsistent" with government policy. The Government's policy is that the sort of mine found in Angola should be banned but that "smartmines" which self-destruct after a limited life should be available to defend troops.

Peter Viggers, a Tory MP and member of the Commons Defence Select Committee, said that the Princess was "very ill-informed" about the landmines and that there was a case for Britain retaining the right to use them. Comparing the Princess's stance to "Brigitte Bardot's concern for cats", he said: "It doesn't actually add much to the sum of human knowledge."

"This is an important, sophisticated argument. It doesn't help simply to point at the armpits and say how terrible it is," he said.

David Howell, Tory chairman of the Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee, was more measured but made clear that the Princess should not be given any official ambassadorial role of the

sort that has been mooted.

Mike Whitlam, director-general of the British Red Cross, who is accompanying the Princess on her Angolan visit, said it was being undertaken with the support of the Foreign Office and Buckingham Palace in visiting Angola and that she had been fully briefed. Standing next to the Princess by a minefield, he described the criticism of her as "a bit of mischief".

"She's not a loose cannon" Mr Whitlam said. "The Princess, like many others, wants anti-personnel mines banned. We don't accept that she's going against government policy."

Roger Hart, the British Ambassador to Angola, yesterday praised the Princess's visit.

Labour and the Liberal Democrats which both want an immediate ban on landmines, backed the Princess's stance.

In Huambo, the locals stood by bemusedly as the Princess, in a protective visor and vest, walked

through a carefully cleared area to detonate an East German PPM2 mine by remote control. She smiled and spoke with the British military officers from the Halo Trust, which has been operating in Huambo for the past 18 months, clearing mines laid by both government and Unita rebel forces during the 20-year civil war. The Princess also met mine victims at the city's hospital.

Earlier yesterday, she rescheduled her itinerary to fit in a brief visit to the war-ravaged city of Cuilo and was briefed about the efforts of a British de-mining team who were clearing 500 mines a month. Asked about comments that she was a "loose cannon", she replied that she was just highlighting a problem that existed all over the world.

Asked about suggestions that her stand on landmines might be construed as pro-Labour, she replied: "I'm sorry, I don't know what you're talking about."



Diana, Princess of Wales, in Angola yesterday with the Halo Trust mine-clearing team

Prince signs £1.3m deal to make TV series

FROM QUENTIN TARENTINO
IN NEW YORK

PRINCE EDWARD signed a seven-figure deal yesterday to make television documentaries for an American broadcaster for the next two years.

The Prince, who was at a television trade conference in New Orleans, announced that he will present a series made by his London-based Ardent Productions for CBS. The value of the 24-month contract was said by sources to be about £1.3 million.

The contract is for up to 12 documentaries which will take their lead from *Edward on Edward* which the Prince made about Edward VIII. Prince Edward was said to be "absolutely delighted" at the deal. The programmes will be distributed worldwide.

A television industry source said yesterday: "This is a pretty amazing deal for anyone with a small production company. It should help to raise Ardent from being just one of hundreds of production companies into a bigger player. The Prince has good reason to be pleased."

It confounds those sceptics who speculated that Ardent was struggling to survive and it may give the Prince — who uses the name Edward Windsor professionally — a "public recognition factor" in America, where celebrity brings high financial rewards.

The Duchess of York, announcing her appointment as a spokeswoman for WeightWatchers yesterday, confessed that she was once hooked on sausage rolls and used to be so plump that she became stuck in a gate. Her one-year deal is said to be worth about £650,000.

Court backing for family claiming rent on luxury flat

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

AN ASIAN family living on income support have won High Court backing for their claim to be paid housing benefit covering the full rental of a luxury flat to which they moved through fear of racial harassment.

The court was told that Asmat Sheikh, 41, decided two years ago to move to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea because she believed her home in the east London borough of Redbridge was no longer a safe place to live.

Mr Justice Latham said Mrs Sheikh, her 10-year-old daughter, Leila, and mother, Mulama Sultana, had been subjected to burglaries which had left them nervous and afraid to sleep at night. Leila's education was affected after she saw frightening racist behaviour, including a violent attack on her cousin in the school playground. He ordered the council to reconsider the family's claim.

The judge said: "They decided to move to a place of greater safety and the only area where they were able to, they said, obtain the security which they required, with security cameras and porter or guard on the premises, was in the centre of London in an area which was the responsibility of the royal borough, and which, by its very nature, would be expensive accommodation."

The family first moved into a three-bedroom flat on the edge of Belgravia in February 1995, paying a £2,533 deposit. They submitted a claim for housing benefit for the £498-a-week rent. But they were told by the council that they were entitled to only £295 a week. The following August, with

rent arrears escalating, they moved to a two-bedroom flat near Sloane Square. This time they were asked for a £1,300 deposit and four weeks' rent — a further £1,200. The council agreed the family should be paid £240 a week in housing benefit towards the £300 rent. On each occasion the family appealed unsuccessfully for the full amount to the council's housing benefit review board.

The judge ruled that, in the first case, there was no requirement on the council to offer them some form of security "over and above the ordinary security which any householder is entitled to in his premises".

He said: "They had moved from Redbridge where, as a matter of fact, rentals for the required type of accommodation are measured in the hundreds, not two hundreds, per week. Kensington and Chelsea is also an area with which they have no connection whatsoever, with no family ties, and therefore they have no justification for saying that was the only area with which the board could make its appropriate comparisons."

In the second case, however, the review board had failed to explain to the family why it rejected the claim that "suitable accommodation" should include a block with security cameras and a porter. He said the board had failed to address the problem of Leila's education given that she was happily settled into a new school in the area.

Because of this he ordered that the claim should be reheard by a new board. The council is considering an appeal.

Chilling conclusion for life, the universe and everything

FROM DAN FALK IN TORONTO AND NIGEL HAWKES

THE forecast for the universe is cold, and getting colder. It will end as a dark place inhabited only by a flotilla of elementary particles moving across a vast expanse of space. No stars, no life, not even any atoms will disturb this utterly featureless expanse.

Peering into the remote future in more detail than astronomers ever have before, American researchers yesterday described a universe in which, over unimaginably long timescales, stars and planets will give way to black holes and, ultimately, to fundamental particles.

Dr Gregory Laughlin and Dr Fred Adams of Michigan University presented their forecast to the American Astronomical Society in Toronto. They believe that the universe will go on expanding for ever, rather than collapsing

in a reversal of the Big Bang with which it began.

"We are taking physical laws as we understand them and working out the logical consequences to develop a rigorous quantitative theory of the future," Dr Adams said.

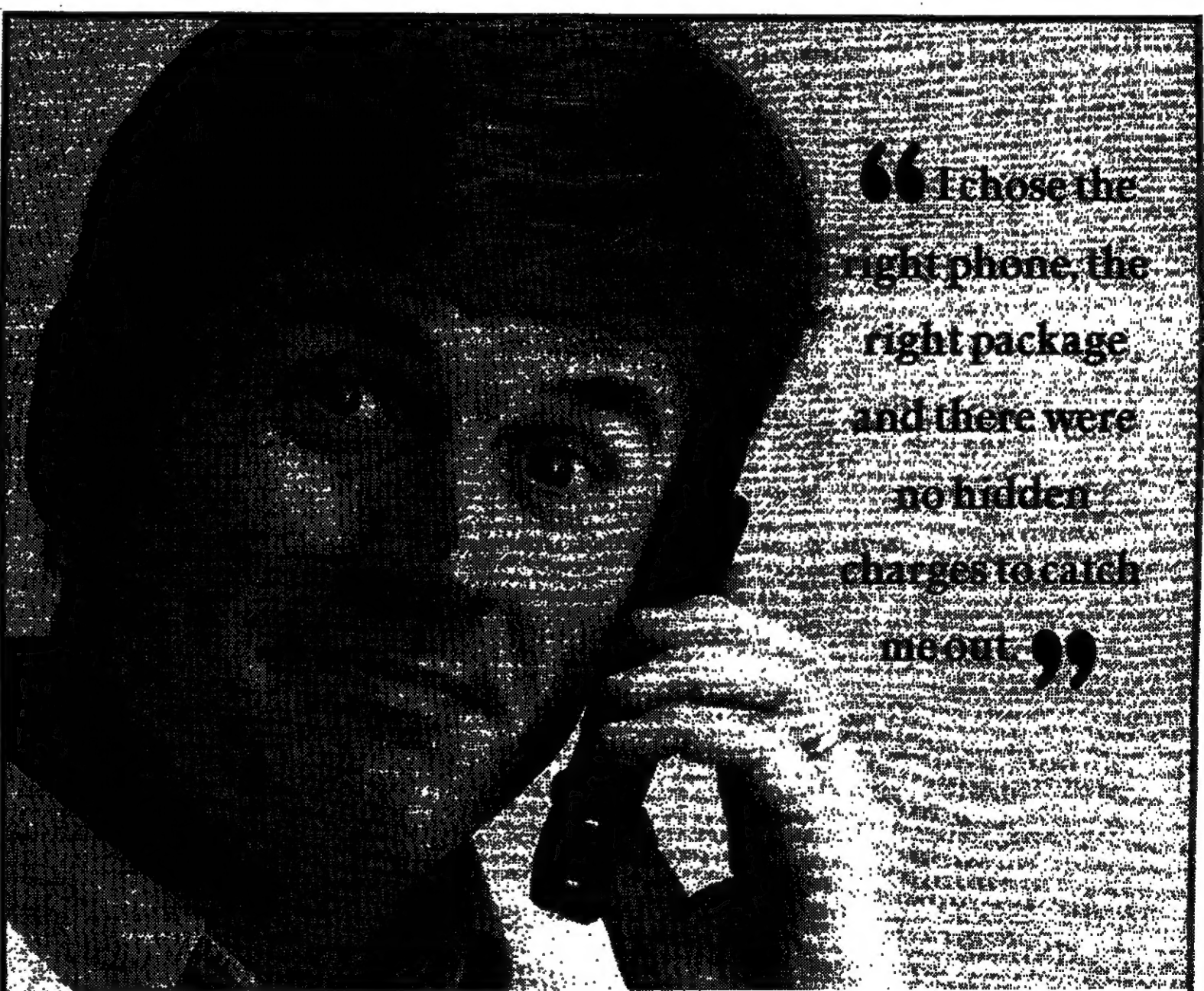
The timescales are so large they have divided the universe into cosmological "decades", each ten times longer than the one before. Our solar system formed 10,000 million years after the Big Bang — one followed by ten naughts — marking the start of the tenth cosmological decade in the history of the universe. We are in that decade.

Over many more millions of years all Sun-like stars will have evolved into white dwarf stars, and by the fourteenth decade — 100 million million years from now — all star formation will have ceased.

By the fortieth decade, even the protons that make up matter will have decayed and the only large objects in the universe will be black holes. At this point, carbon-based life will be impossible.

Eventually even the black holes will disappear, radiating away their energy by a process first described by the British physicist Stephen Hawking. In its final stage, the universe will be reduced to nothing more than elementary particles in the vast, dark expanse of space.

This state, however, lies beyond the hundredth cosmological decade — one followed by 100 naughts. Dr Laughlin said: "If you're interested strictly in your mortgage, certainly by the time proton decay happens the mortgage will no longer be an important part of the universe."



"I chose the right phone, the right package and there were no hidden charges to catch me out."

ALL-IN-ONE PACKAGES (INCLUDING CONNECTION!) CHOOSE YOUR PHONE. CHOOSE YOUR PRICE.

At Peoples Phone we believe in offering our customers a choice. Only that way can we meet their different needs and ensure no-one is ever disappointed by their purchase.

That's why we created these packages. They both include 12 months line rental and, unlike many of our competitors' packages, connection and a wide choice of phones.

And there are no hidden charges, just a one-off payment, in advance. After that, all you'll pay for are your calls.

And there's one other feature that sets us apart. As a nationwide specialist retailer, we sell you both the calls and the phone so we'll still be there long after you've bought your phone, offering you service and care.

Simply call the number below to find the nearest of our 181 stores nationwide. We'll help you make the choice that best suits you.

£199

THIS DIGITAL PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 12 months line rental
- Connection
- A choice of leading brand name phones including the Motorola Flare

TOTAL SAVING **£57.80**

£135

THIS ANALOGUE PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 12 months line rental
- Connection
- A choice of leading brand name phones including the NEC P8 and Nokia 909

TOTAL SAVING **£54.99**

OVER 180 STORES NATIONWIDE
CALL 0345-10-11-12
FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE, A FREE INFORMATION
PACK OR TO PLACE AN ORDER.

PEOPLES
P H O N E

The offer is subject to availability, status and a new standard distance contract of 12 months with 30 days' notice thereafter. Customers will need to provide a valid credit card or cheque guarantee card plus bank details and proof of address.

Don't punish the innocent.



Dunblane was a terrible tragedy. But the Government's response to the wickedness of Thomas Hamilton – the new Firearms Bill – is grossly unfair to thousands of decent people. It is scapegoating law abiding sportsmen and women for a crime they did not commit and the horror of which they deplore.

The Bill now going through Parliament won't protect the public from madmen or armed criminals. Nor will it stop the flood of illegal weapons pouring into the Britain.¹ It won't prevent youngsters or other vulnerable people from watching violent videos or curb excessive violence on TV and in films.² It is pre-election theatre – doing what looks good rather than doing what works; politicians seeking votes rather than real solutions.

The Firearms Bill will:

- Destroy a popular, safe and well regulated sport enjoyed by tens of thousands including police officers, ex servicemen and women, the disabled and Olympic and Commonwealth competitors.
- Confiscate private property on an unprecedented scale.
- Wreck hundreds of small businesses and put 2000 people out of work.
- Cost the taxpayer at least £400 million (possibly much more) – the equivalent of 100 new schools, 3 major hospitals or thousands of police on the beat.

1. There are probably 5-10 times the number of illegally held handguns in Britain as licensed ones.
2. The average rental video in the Top Ten now has 13 firearms killings in it and 6 killings by other means.

The Sportsman's Association
fighting for fair, effective law

Last Saturday 10,000 sportsmen and women marched in central London. They asked for traditional British fair play. That the innocent should not be punished for the crimes of the guilty.

Don't punish the innocent!

After Dunblane the Government appointed a distinguished judge, Lord Cullen, to examine existing firearms laws. His main recommendations have been ignored. Our politicians once again are failing to learn the lessons of tragedy, preferring ill thought out gestures to implementing the advice of experts.

Instead of banning law abiding people from owning firearms for sport we need laws and policies that address the real issues.

There is an urgent need for:

- A national Firearms Control Board staffed by specialists.
- A computerised National Firearms register.
- Effective action against illegal guns.
- Better and properly monitored police procedures.
- Improved screening of firearm certificate applicants.

**The Firearms Amendment Bill will not work.
It does not deserve to become law.**

Membership Application Form

Title	Surname	Forename
Address		Postcode
Telephone	Fax	Date of Birth <small>if under 18 years old</small>
Occupation	Specialised services you can offer	

I apply for membership of the Sportsman's Association of Great Britain & Northern Ireland and agree to abide by its Constitution and Rules. I wish to register my protest against the proposed legislation to restrict participation in shooting sports. I agree that the Association may keep my details on computer and that the Association may rely on the exemption from registering under the Data Protection Act. I enclose my Membership Fee (minimum £5.00 or £1.00 for Juniors under 18) made payable to SAGE. I also enclose a donation of: (Please circle) £10 £20 £50 Other Date Signature

Sportsman's Association of Great Britain & Northern Ireland No.1 Sentinel Works Whitchurch Road Shrewsbury Salop. SY1 4DP
Telephone 01743 46 1689 Fax 01743 46 0062 Web page www.sagbni.org Telephone Hotline 0891 14 1689

هكذا من الأصل

Nearly having it all: how an executive mother juggled jobs

By JOANNA BAILEY AND CAROL MIDDLETON

THE mother of five who was suspended from her £1 million-a-year job at Morgan Grenfell after claims that she had been negotiating to work at a rival bank spent yesterday in discussion with her lawyers.

Until her dramatic fall from grace, it appeared that Nicola Horlick's "Superwoman" life-style was proof that women can do it all. In the male-dominated Square Mile where most women have had to delay, if not give up, having children if they want to succeed, Mrs Horlick managed to juggle her high-flying career as one of the most powerful women in the City with the demands of five children aged under ten.

She even found time to host frequent dinner and cocktail parties and her cooking skills are said to be the envy of friends. With her husband, Tim, also earning a large salary as head of corporate finance and investment banking at Salomon Brothers, hiring a full-time nanny and housekeeper was not a problem. Mrs Horlick also had the advantage of working in fund management, one of the few City jobs with reasonably decent working hours.

Nevertheless, fitting in five lots of maternity leave while managing to fight off competition for top positions from dozens of male counterparts has earned her the admiration of most of her colleagues. One said yesterday: "She is highly intelligent, incredibly motivated and well-organised but does not come across as ruthlessly ambitious. She is a real

backstabber, she speaks her mind and you always know where you stand with her."

She has, however, not escaped the sexism that pervades all City offices, and some of her less able male colleagues have nicknamed her Miss Eggy - a reference to her curvaceous figure, rather than any personality trait.

Despite the pressure of handling the bank's £18 billion UK pensions fund business, Mrs Horlick believes that the job was by no means incompatible with being a good mother. In a recent interview she said: "People who say that sort of thing haven't tried it. I'm usually home by 6.30pm and have until 8pm every night with the children, and every weekend we all go down to our cottage in Hampshire. It helps that Tim is willing to play his part and even change the odd nappy now and again."

Mrs Horlick's no-nonsense attitude to motherhood was apparent when she occasionally brought her babies to work, and even breast-fed them in a private room.

Before her problems at Morgan Grenfell, the only hitch in her otherwise perfect life appears to have come seven years ago when her eldest daughter Georgia was diagnosed as suffering from leukaemia at the age of two. The Horlicks thought about giving up their careers to be with her throughout her treatment, but it was established that their daughter's chances of recovery were good.

Mrs Horlick said: "It was the first time in my life that I had not felt in control and it did me a lot of good. I'd had it very easy up until then - I had come from a well-off family, had a good education, was married to the man I loved and had every opportunity in my career. Then I realised that I was really not in control of my life."

Since then, she has been a devoted campaigner for the Leukaemia Research Fund, for which she has raised £150,000. A spokesman for the charity said: "She is a marvellous person, very driven and she has done lots of great work for us. She has organised a number of fundraising events, particularly charity balls. She has a committee of friends around her but she is great at getting things done and we are very grateful."

Privately educated at Birkenhead High School and Balliol College, Oxford, where she achieved a second-class degree in law, she came to the City by way of a year selling

animal feed for her father's business.

Her first position was at Mercury Asset Management where one of her bosses, Carol Galley, widely regarded as the most powerful woman in the City, was an inspiration.

The house from which Mrs Horlick runs her lifestyle is a £1.3 million, five-storey Georgian mansion in Stafford Terrace, Kensington, west London. Yesterday her nanny and housekeeper spent much of the day ferrying the children to and from school in the family's Mitsubishi Shogun as Mrs Horlick spent the day with her lawyers. She had left home just after 10am dressed in a black business suit and overcoat and carrying a briefcase. As photographers confronted her she reacted with characteristic cool. "I've been advised by my solicitors to say nothing, I'm sorry."

Neighbours were sympathetic. "How ghastly for them," one said. "They are a delightful family. It is a busy, happy home with always lots of comings and goings."

Another said: "She always reminds me of Mrs Tiggywinkle when she's with the little ones."

Husband sued, page 23



Nicola Horlick, likened by a neighbour to Mrs Tiggywinkle with her children

Mother fights to bring children home from cult

FROM LEONARD PORT IN LISBON

A BRITISH mother has won a judgment in a Portuguese court to force her three children to leave a cult run by their grandmother.

Claire Scott claimed that her 13-year-old twin boys and 14-year-old daughter were being brainwashed by the secretive International Saturday Group based in Lisbon. The children had been living with their father, Mark Scott, at Cascais near Lisbon until he died last week from Aids.

The court in Lisbon awarded Mrs Scott, 37, custody earlier this week but Robin Rankine, her lawyer, says that she will stay in Portugal until the authorities deal with an action brought by Nadine Scott, her American mother-in-law, to stop the children leaving.

In his will Mr Scott stipulated that the children should live with his estranged wife but the teenagers insist they want to stay in Portugal and face being adopted by one of the 40 "senior couples" in the cult.

The group was set up in Britain in the 1960s preaching the need for "closer interpersonal relationships" and advocating that children be reared by cult members and not their parents.

A British judge in a custody case in 1984 criticised Nadine Scott for being "totally unqualified in matters of childcare". The court was told that her

cult believed in "regular therapy sessions stretching over years at monthly couples' meetings at which all personal and matrimonial and family problems are freely discussed". Judge Callam said "an introspective and egotistical life". The most recent photograph of the members, who number about 100, showed them all standing in the nude.

The cult was forced to leave both Britain and Holland after complaints from members and moved to Portugal where Mrs Scott bought a villa in the Algarve and a home in Cascais. Mrs Scott is said to draw recruits from the professional classes. They are believed to include doctors, lawyers and a Portuguese magazine publisher who pay a percentage of their incomes to the cult.

Claire Scott, a former member, separated from her husband in 1986 after he was diagnosed as HIV positive and was given two years to live. She agreed that her children should remain with their father and admits that she lost touch with her children when she moved back to Britain to find work.

Mr Rankine, her solicitor, said last night: "The legal position is simple. The mother has custody and has nothing to do with Nadine Scott."



The Horlicks' home in Stafford Terrace

£10 BUYS A CHAIN CUTTER

He's chained up through his sensitive nose and made to walk on red hot planks, whilst the back of his legs are Aft in three to minute. Onlookers shout and cheer him to drink beer. Why? Because they're 'teaching him to dance' for tourists who pay to watch his agonising waltz.

The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) rescues 'dancing bears' and takes them to sanctuaries where they can be free of pain and suffering. But we can't carry out our life-saving work without the support of people like you. Your gift of just £10, or whatever you can afford, will help cut the chains of innocent animals. So please send your donation today. He's counting on you.

YES, I WANT TO CUT THE CHAINS!

Please fill in the details below

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

How is my donation of £ _____

By cheque (Please make payable to WSPA or complete the credit card details below)

By credit card (Please tick the appropriate box) ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS ☐ DISCOVER ☐ OTHER

WHERE DO I FIND THE BEST DEALS?

THINK THE LINK!

FOR MASSIVE SAVINGS

NO LINE RENTAL FOR A WHOLE YEAR

ON CELLNET MOBILE PHONES PACKAGES

Ericsson 318
Digital Mobile Phone Package
• Up to 230 minutes talktime/67 hours standby
• 50 name and number memory

SAVE OVER £60

£164.49*

PLUS £35.50 CONNECTION FEE

Nokia 1610 Digital Mobile
Phone Package
• Up to 210 minutes talktime/100 hours standby
• 100 name and number memory
• Dedicated VoiceMail key

SAVE OVER £60

£164.49*

PLUS £35.50 CONNECTION FEE

Motorola A130
Analogue Mobile Phone Package
• Up to 120 minutes talktime/48 hours standby

FREE

£134.99*

NEC P800
Analogue Mobile Phone Package
• Up to 100 minutes talktime/27 hours standby

FREE

£139.99*

BIGGEST EVER SALE

SAVE UP TO £50 ON FAX MACHINES

INTEREST FREE OPTION ON ALL PLAIN PAPER FAXES

Philips PPF30
Fax Machine
• High quality plain paper fax
• 40 number memory
• 10 page document feeder

SAVE £50

£399.99

Philips PPF 800
Fax Machine
• High quality plain paper fax
• 40 number memory
• 10 page document feeder

SAVE £30

£349.99

Philips PPF 800
Fax Machine
• High quality plain paper fax
• 40 number memory
• 10 page document feeder

SAVE £20

£429.99

PRICE BREAKTHROUGH ON LATEST DIGITAL CORDLESS PHONES

Philips TD9571
Digital Cordless Phone

SAVE £30

£149.99

Philips TD9571
Digital Cordless Phone

SAVE £30

£199.99

Philips TD9571
Digital Cordless Phone

SAVE £30

£199.99

one 2 one

FREE CALLS
15 minutes every month until the end of 1997

SAVE £40

£9.99*

FREE LINE RENTAL FOR 1 MONTH
INCLUDING UP TO 60 MINUTES OF FREE CALLS*

SAVE £30

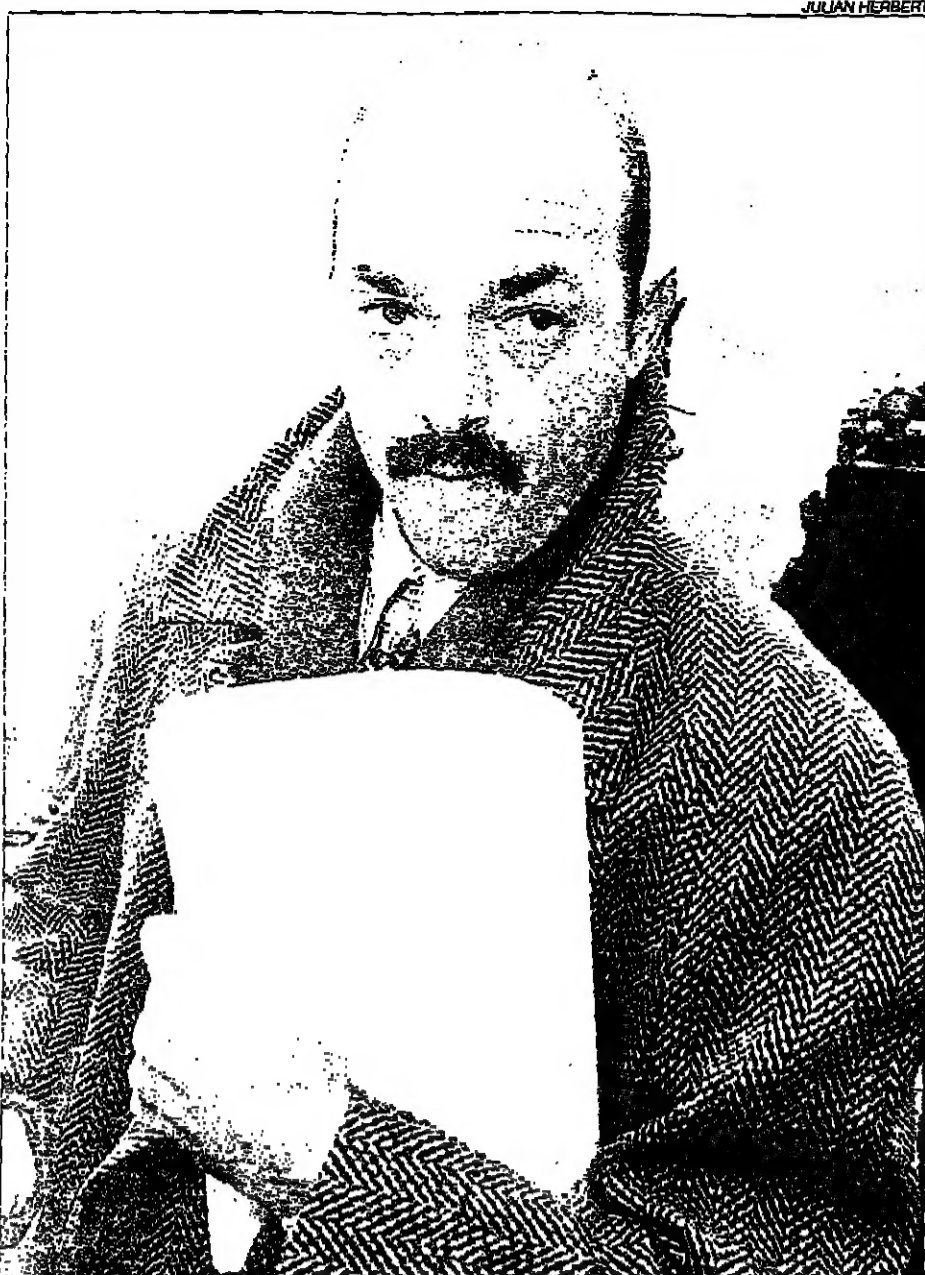
£4.99*

FREE CHOICE GUARANTEE
For a small one-off fee of £5 when you make your purchase, you can be assured that should your circumstances change, you can return your phone and cancel your airtime.

14 DAY

The Link

Match-rigging trial jury shown video of Grobbelaar 'blindens' in draw against Manchester United



Bruce Grobbelaar arriving at court yesterday for the second day of the trial

Two spectacular saves 'cost keeper £125,000 fixing fee'

By LIN JENKINS

THE Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar made two "blinding" saves in a tightly fought game against Manchester United that cost him £125,000 from a Far Eastern betting syndicate, a court was told yesterday.

The prosecuting counsel in the match-rigging trial at Winchester Crown Court said that the player boasted to a former business associate that it would have been his largest single payment for fixing a match, had he succeeded. But he had also conceded that he was his own worst enemy because he hated to lose.

Video footage of the saves during the game in January, 1994, was shown to the jury. Mr Grobbelaar was seen diving to his left to deflect a shot by Ryan Giggs and to his right to reach another from Roy Keane.

David Calvert-Smith, for the prosecution, said that in a secretly taped conversation littered with expletives, Mr Grobbelaar recalled how things had gone wrong. "I could have done something," he said, "it was in the second half I made two blinding saves. I dived the wrong way. I just went and it just hit my hand. Do you know how much I lost - £125,000 pounds in cash."

Manchester United had been 3-1 up, but the final result

at Anfield had been a 3-3 draw. Mr Calvert-Smith said: "If this was the big one, and Mr Grobbelaar had been hoping to do enough to make Liverpool lose, he had failed because it was a draw."

He said Mr Grobbelaar, who is now with Plymouth Argyle, had made £40,000 when Liverpool lost to Newcastle in November, 1993. But the Manchester United game was one of four in which the result had not gone as planned. Mr Grobbelaar had perhaps given his own explanation on tape, when he was speaking to Christopher Vincent, a fellow Zimbabwean: "I know I'm my worst enemy. It is because I don't like to lose. It's instinct."

In a game against Norwich on February 5, 1994, Liverpool had again failed to lose, drawing 2-2. Mr Grobbelaar had said that he saved the ball through instinctive reactions, his left knee getting to a shot from Jeremy Goss.

The jury watched a video of the save and of a game the following season when Mr Grobbelaar had moved to Southampton. Mr Calvert-Smith said that this time he claimed to have tried to affect the result by helping Coventry to win. Southampton had won 3-1 despite Mr Grobbelaar claiming to have put the ball in his own goal. "Two minutes

after kick-off I pushed the ball in the back of the net and then it steamrollered - 1-0 down at half-time and then it steamrollered," he had said.

The video showed Dion Dublin's shot at goal from outside the area and the goalkeeper jumping, just getting his fingertips to the ball before it continued its flight into the net.

Mr Calvert-Smith said: "Grobbelaar is explaining that he had been told they had to lose the Coventry game, that he pushed the ball in the back of the net to make it 1-0 to Coventry and then, through no fault of his, Southampton scored three and it's a 3-1 win. It is the clearest possible admission by Grobbelaar that the Coventry match was part of the scheme."

In the dock with Mr Grobbelaar, 39, are the Dutch-born former Wimbledon goalkeeper Hans Segers, 34, and the former Wimbledon and England striker John Fashanu, 33, who is now a presenter of *Gladiators* on television. The prosecution claims Mr Segers also received money to throw games while Mr Fashanu is said to have been a go-between with the betting syndicate.

Accused with them is Heng Suan Lim, 30, a Malaysian businessman who is said to be the syndicate's British link. All



Lim: said to be the link with betting syndicate

Mr Fashanu, Mr Grobbelaar and Mr Lim. While it could not be known what was discussed, it was likely, given the evidence of the tape recordings, that it was "which match to put a lot of money on and clean up".

Grobbelaar had also met Mr Lim. Mr Calvert-Smith said. The night before the Norwich game he had slipped out of the team hotel and driven to a meeting with him at the Hilton hotel in Park Lane, London. Mr Lim had gone to that game and Mr Grobbelaar had said after the match to Mr Vincent that "the short man would be as mad as a snake" because Liverpool had not lost.

The prosecution said that police investigations found that £254,007 from Asia was deposited in nominee accounts controlled by Mr Fashanu in the name of his girlfriend, now wife, Melissa Kassa-Mapsi, a friend, Peter Buckell, and a cousin, Miss S. Alao, who lived in Tanzania, between 1991 and his arrest in 1995.

While there was no direct evidence against Mr Segers, who is alleged to have been involved while goalkeeper at Wimbledon, his telephone bills showed numerous calls to Mr Lim and Mr Fashanu, especially around the dates of matches. A Swiss branch of an American bank had £160,000 in his account.

The case continues.

HURRY! SOME OFFERS END JAN 29TH



PRICE BASED ON THESE 7 RIGID CABINETS

COMPRISSES:
1000mm Drawer Line Base Unit - 1, 1000mm H-Lane Base Unit & 2, 1000mm Full Height Wall Unit & 2, 600mm Bath Under Oven Housing Unit, 600mm Hob Wall Unit

COMPLETE* 7 CABINET BEAULIEU KITCHEN
7 CABINETS, OVEN, HOB & EXTRACTOR, SINK, TAPS AND WORKTOPS
INCLUDING A LARGER FRIDGE AND FREEZER

SALE PRICE

£1234.79 Was £1509.79
SAVE £275

AEG ELECTRIC SINGLE OVEN GROUP



Moonlight White
AEG Electric Single Oven AEG731121 Plus £229.99
AEG Gas Hob AEG111923 Plus £169.99
AEG 60cm Cooker Hood AEG711525 Plus £79.99
Was £269.97
PACKAGE PRICE £499.97 (VAT 31112)

LOW COST INSTALLATION AVAILABLE



MFI home works

Bombing suspect freed in Ireland

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A TELEVISION actor wanted in connection with an IRA attack on a British Army base in Germany has been released from prison by the Irish Justice Minister, who said that she had no authority to extradite him to Germany.

James Corry, 28, was to have stood trial in Germany on charges relating to the

triple mortar attack on an army base in Osnabrück last June. Nora Owen, the Irish Justice Minister, said that she could not extradite Mr Corry because he claimed Irish citizenship. Although a native of Belfast, he is entitled under the Irish Constitution to Irish citizenship and an Irish passport. Under the Republic's law, its citizens cannot be extradited unless there is an extradition treaty with the country seeking the suspect, and Ireland has no such treaty with Germany.

Mr Corry, who played an RUC officer in the BBC2 drama *The Precious Blood*, was released from Portlaoise prison late on Tuesday. Police sources said that he went to "somewhere on Dublin's northside". However, he is no longer under police surveillance and will not be rearrested as he is not wanted for any offence in the Republic.



Corry: now in Dublin

Setback for Harrods on name sale

By ROBIN YOUNG

HARRODS suffered a defeat yesterday in its High Court attempt to stop a formerly associated company in South America from selling its name. Mr Justice Neuberger ruled that there was no licence or contract to stop Harrods (Buenos Aires) Ltd from dealing in the name.

Harrods in Buenos Aires was opened as a branch of the Knightsbridge store in 1912, but was subsequently sold to an independent company called Harrods (South America) Ltd. It is the only other shop in the world permitted to trade under the Harrods name.

The judge's ruling means that, unless it can win an appeal, the London store's hopes of curbing its South American counterpart must rest on action for alleged "passing off", which will not be heard for at least another six months.

Where can you find award-winning DIRECT service and an extra month's HOME INSURANCE free?

THE SUN ALLIANCE CONNECTIONS

13 FOR 12 BIG YEAR

- £25 discount for Building insurance
- £15,000 Contents cover from £5 a month
- Claims Team of the Year 1995 and 1996

FOR QUALITY HOME INSURANCE THAT STRETCHES FURTHER CALL

0800 300 800

Lines open 8am to 8pm weekdays, 8am to 1pm Saturdays. Quote reference T249 FB

For your benefit we record or listen to telephone calls. If you would prefer not to receive information on other Royal & Sun Alliance Services, please make an aware when you call

CONNECTIONS

SUN ALLIANCE

Tighter tests for surgeons after patients get hepatitis

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

SURGEONS are to undergo stricter health checks after four women patients became infected with hepatitis B.

The women, who underwent operations in different hospitals, were infected by their surgeons, who were carrying a mutant form of the liver disease. The mutation meant that the normal blood test for hepatitis B failed to show they were infectious.

The disclosure of the cases by a team from the Government's Public Health Laboratory Service will renew pressure on the Government to ban all surgeons with hepatitis B from operating.

Hepatitis B can be transmitted during an operation via blood-to-blood contact resulting from a scratch. Health department guidelines intro-

duced in 1993 require all surgeons to undergo tests and vaccination against hepatitis B to protect patients. Those shown to be infected are banned from operating.

Japanese scientists plan to grow genetically engineered tomatoes containing a hepatitis vaccine which can be administered by eating the fruit. The researchers have already produced tobacco plants which may provide a simple and inexpensive method of screening for the hepatitis B virus. *New Scientist* reports. Ten leaves contain enough antigen to test half a million people.

Most surgeons who are carriers are asymptomatic and, until now, were thought incapable of transmitting the infection. The recent guidelines, however, shown to be a antigen positive by the test are regarded as infectious and banned.

Jangu Banatvala, chairman of the Government's advisory committee on hepatitis B, said yesterday that patient safety was paramount although the chances of being infected were small. "We have to protect the public from being infected by doctors, although the chances of doctors being infected by patients are much higher. But if we stopped all doctors who are carriers of hepatitis B from operating, how many surgeons will we lose and what effect will that have on waiting lists?"

Professor Banatvala, head of clinical virology at St Thomas' Hospital in London, said research was being undertaken to develop methods to identify carriers likely to pass on the infection who were not picked up by the current test, while saving other carriers who were not infectious and who were doing a good job as surgeons.

"We have to develop a new test and I think it will be possible. But the main message to doctors is to get vaccinated so that they don't pick up the infection early in their career," he said.

None of the four women who were infected during surgery developed the disease and all made a full recovery. One of the surgeons involved is believed to have infected two more patients before being identified as the source of the infection by DNA testing. All the surgeons are now doing other work.

Although the four women were infected in hospitals in Britain and the mutant form of the disease was identified here, the scientists from the public health laboratory chose to publish their findings in a US journal, *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

Last year, a 77-year-old woman died of hepatitis B after surgery for a broken hip at a London hospital, west London. The orthopaedic surgeon who operated on her was diagnosed to have the mutant form of the disease.

Mentally ill to get own bill of rights

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

MENTAL patients will today be given their own citizens charter, with rights including being allowed to wear their own clothes in hospital. For the first time the NHS is to give psychiatric patients a written commitment respecting their dignity.

All staff must wear name badges and are required to ask patients whether they want to be called by their first or last name. The mentally ill have the right to choose whether or not to take part in research or student medical training. They must be given somewhere safe to keep their belongings and a place to talk privately with relatives and friends. Patients have the right to be told about any drugs prescribed, including possible side-effects.

Patients can expect minimum response times to a crisis. If their case is urgent, they should be seen by a nurse or mental health worker within four hours. Non-urgent cases should be seen within two working days.

Judi Clements, chief executive of the mental health charity MIND, welcomed the charter but said it should go further. The four-hour emergency response time was too slow and patients were not guaranteed a single-sex ward.

Scientists lower CJD estimates

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

SCIENTISTS investigating the human form of "mad cow" disease have made a small step forward in estimating the final death toll.

New variant CJD could claim thousands of victims or less than a hundred, they say, but most of their estimates lie between the hundreds or low thousands, spread over 20 or 30 years.

The figures fall far short of earlier predictions of up to half a million deaths, but it will be several years before scientists can be sure, a team led by Dr Simon Cousens of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine reports in *Nature*.

If the number of cases arising each year for the next three years is 20 or fewer, then the final number may be no more than a few hundred. But if the number start doubling each year, from a base of about 25 cases showing the first symptoms in 1996, this would imply a longer incubation period and an epidemic involving many thousands.

So far, 14 cases have been confirmed, of which 13 showed the onset of symptoms in 1994 and 1995. The number with onset in 1996 is not yet known, as the disease can be fully diagnosed only after death.

Briton puts his faith in new Swedish leg

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

AN UNEMPLOYED minicab driver will become the first Briton today to be fitted with an artificial leg that is under "natural" control.

Allan Downes, 30, of Morden, south London, lost his left leg in a motorbike accident when he was 17 and has been unable to use artificial legs. Osseointegration involves inserting a titanium bolt into the bone of the stump and locking the artificial leg on to it with a spanner. This gives better anchorage and more sensation than strapping the artificial leg on to the stump. A computer-controlled

hydraulics system bends the knee and is quick to react to the movement of the hip.

The technique has been pioneered at the Institute of Biotechnology in Gothenburg, Sweden. A team of four doctors from Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, has travelled to Sweden to assist with the operation which will be led by Per-Ingvär Brånemark.

Speaking from Sweden yesterday, Mr Downes said: "I have nothing to lose. If it does not work I am back where I started. If it does I am out there kicking it with everyone else."



Debussy: the inspiration

A tale of two cities lures piano marathon to Britain

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A FRENCH pianist is coming to London to perform a marathon concert featuring Debussy's entire piano repertoire in a single day. Paris did not welcome the idea.

Philippe Cassard will be at the keyboard of the Wigmore Hall from 11.30am until 10pm. Brief intervals will allow him and the audience to catch their breath.

Yesterday he recalled how the idea of an all-day tribute to the French composer met a less than enthusiastic response when he suggested it in Paris. "They don't dare. They thought the audience would not follow it. But when I proposed it to William Lyne,

director of the Wigmore Hall, he accepted immediately."

Music lovers who are prepared to forgo their usual Sunday lunch and dinner arrangements on January 26 will instead be able to feast on more than 83 colourful works, along with a few by composers who influenced Debussy, such as the 18th-century Frenchman, Rameau. Cassard, 34, said: "For me, even if it's tiring, I love my piano. It's a part of me, and Debussy is not Prokofiev or Liszt. It's just a journey. This music is a second language for me."

He wants to enhance appreciation of the full range of the composer's genius. "Debussy is more than music. It's about colour, imagination, dreams, spirit and humour. The

language is so consistently original and subtle, the colours so dazzling with variety, that in proceeding through the works, you are overwhelmed by diverse feelings and sensations."

Cassard, who trained at the Conservatoire de Paris and the Vienna Musikhochschule, won first prize at the 1988 Dublin International Piano Competition. He has given the all-day concert before, three years ago at the Besançon Festival in southeast France, and will do so again in two months' time at the Marseilles Opera House. His recording of the complete Debussy piano music was awarded the Grand Prix du Disque Français.

The music of Claude Debussy (1862-1918), is often described as the musical equivalent of Impressionism. However, Debussy himself disliked the label, preferring the paintings of Whistler and Turner, and poetry of the Symbolists.

Cassard intends to convey the true range of styles and influences, from the *Etudes*, "which are so radical and inspired others, from the jazz musician Thelonious Monk to Bartok," to *The Children's Corner*. Music lovers who do not want the whole marathon can buy tickets for four different segments.

At the Wigmore Hall, Mr Lyne said: "I thought that it probably wouldn't attract a big audience, but it was worth an audience. This gives a completely different experience. I think people will be surprised."

Philippe Cassard rehearsing yesterday. He said: "Even if it's tiring, I love my piano"



ADRIAN BROOKS

THE TIMES
ON SATURDAY



AT HOME WITH
JEFFREY

Iain Sinclair on
Lord Archer's
prospects
in Weekend

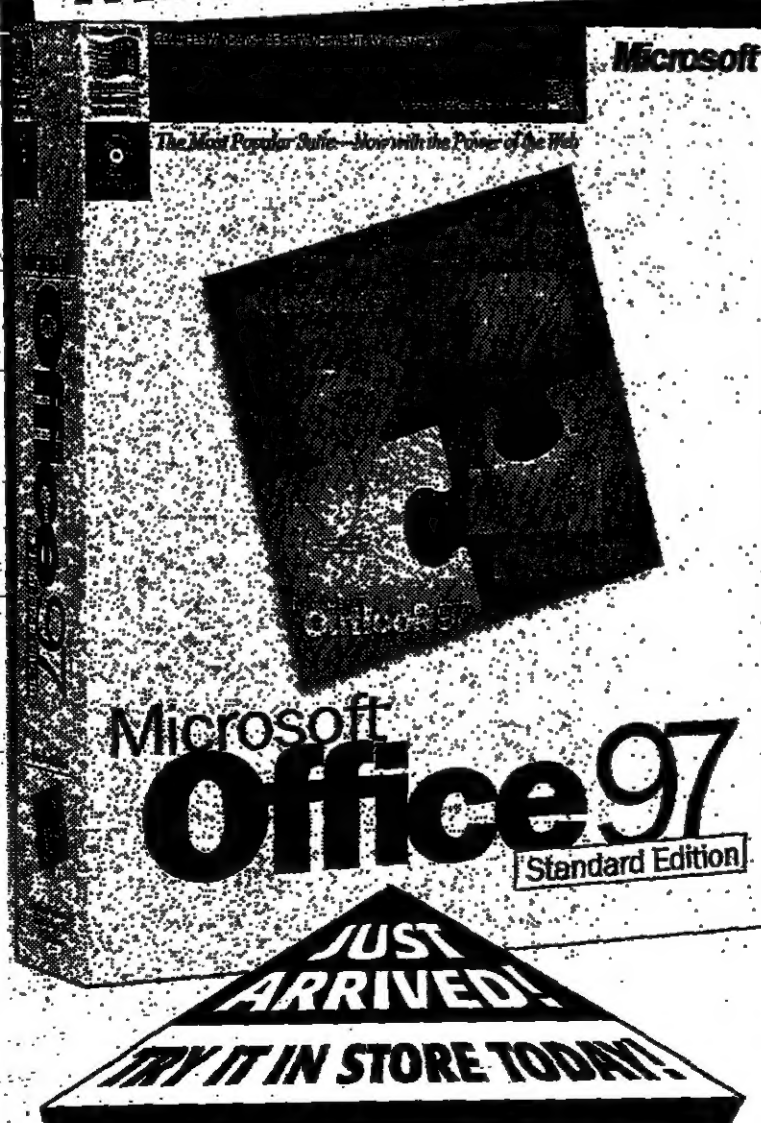
LIKE FATHER
LIKE SON

Robert Crampton
meets
Ian Paisley Jnr
in
The Magazine

Plus

The Directory,
your 7-day TV and
radio guide, 1015
for young readers,
Car 97 and
Weekend Money

NEW AT PC WORLD MICROSOFT OFFICE 97



The world's most popular Office Suite - now with the power of the web. With full featured integrated applications.

- Microsoft Word 97
- Microsoft PowerPoint 97
- Microsoft Excel 97
- Microsoft Outlook 97
- Microsoft Access 97

GET ORGANISED, GET CONNECTED AND GET RESULTS FAST

Connect and publish to the internet with ease using new Office 97 technology. New features include Background Grammar checker, multiple word Auto Correct and the revolutionary Office Assistant. Over 3000 clip art images, 150 fonts plus Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.0.

FROM ONLY
£199

STANDARD VERSION UPGRADE
UPGRADES FROM MOST APPLICATIONS

- Professional Version Upgrade £279
- Professional Version Upgrade + Mouse £299
- Standard Full Product £429
- Professional Version Full Product + Bookshelf £529

MICROSOFT BOOKSHELF
The British reference collection. Provides quick and easy access to 5 of the most current reference works available including Chambers Dictionary, Hutchinson Concise Encyclopedia, Microsoft Encarta 95 World Atlas and more.

£49.99

MICROSOFT PUBLISHER 97
Create high impact publications such as newsletters, flyers, web pages, brochures and lots more in only a few easy steps. Includes more than 5,000 clip art images plus video and sound clips via the internet.

£99

MICROSOFT FRONT PAGE
Makes Professional Website publishing easy. Front Page eliminates the need for programming making it easier than ever before to create and maintain web sites. Includes Web Wizards which reduce the time to create web sites.

£109

MICROSOFT WINDOWS 95
Unlock the potential of your PC. Windows 95 is the operating system that will transform everything you do with your PC. Using a computer can be fast, easy and fun.

£79

CHOOSE FROM OVER 1500 SOFTWARE TITLES

SAVE UP TO HALF PRICE ON PERIPHERALS WHEN BOUGHT WITH OFFICE 97

MICROSOFT INTELLIMOUSE
The mouse with ultimate control and comfort. Faster, easier navigation in Office 97, Windows 95 and Internet Explorer 3.0. Usual Price £59.99.

SAVE £10 WHEN BOUGHT WITH OFFICE 97
£49.99

MICROSOFT KEYBOARD
The ultimate ergonomic keyboard designed for maximum comfort. Specific MS Windows 95 keys give immediate access to over 20 short cuts, saving time and mouse clicks. Usual Price £69.99.

SAVE £20 WHEN BOUGHT WITH OFFICE 97
£49.99

GET CONNECTED
Hayes Message Desk. Full internet and voice mail facilities with this 33.6Kbps modem. Includes all the software and cables. Usual Price £169.99.

SAVE 10% WHEN BOUGHT WITH OFFICE 97
£152.10

COLOUR SCANNER
Logitech Pagescan Pro ADF. Full 24 bit colour page scanner, fully Windows 95 compliant. Incorporates images and text in all of your office documents. Usual Price £279.

SAVE 10% WHEN BOUGHT WITH OFFICE 97
£251.10

COMPUTER BOOKS
Microsoft Press. A complete range of Office 97 books from Microsoft Press. From self tutorials for first time users to advanced technical references for professionals.

1/2 PRICE WHEN BOUGHT WITH OFFICE 97
From £9.49

8 MBYTE OF MEMORY FOR THE PRICE OF 4 MBYTE
Buy 4Mbyte of Memory together with MS Office 97 and get an extra 4 Mbyte Free. *Usual price for 2x4 Mbyte simms £49.98

8 Mbyte Memory
£24.99

PC WORLD
THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE CALL 0990 464 464

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------------|----------|--------|---------|-------|--------|------------|-----------|--------|---------|--------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------|---------|---------|------------|---------------|--------|
| ABINGDON | BIRMINGHAM | BRIGHTON | BURTON | GLASGOW | LEEDS | LONDON | MANCHESTER | MILWAUKEE | MURRAY | NORWICH | OXFORD | READING | ROCHESTER | SHEFFIELD | SOUTHAMPTON | STOKE | SWINDON | TORQUAY | WARRINGTON | WOLVERHAMPTON | WYTHAM |
|----------|------------|----------|--------|---------|-------|--------|------------|-----------|--------|---------|--------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------|---------|---------|------------|---------------|--------|
- OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

هكذا من الأصل

Labour promises faster support for struggling schools

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

LABOUR accused the Government of complacency over school standards yesterday after disclosing that the number of schools failing by inspectors had doubled in a year.

David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary, claimed that ministers were neglecting a growing problem. A Labour government would adopt a new approach to prevent failure and offer a fresh start to those beyond rescue.

Official figures given in answer to a parliamentary question showed that the number of failing primary schools had increased from 46 in 1994-95 to 116 in 1995-96. The equivalent figure for secondary schools was 65, compared with 35 a year earlier.

Mr Blunkett said: "The Tories talk a lot about failing schools, yet very rarely are they prepared to act." Labour would strengthen local authority inspection and advisory services to ensure that struggling schools were identified quickly and helped to

improve. Good head teachers would be encouraged to take over weak schools near by and schools which still failed would start afresh with a new name, new staff and governors.

However, Ofsted, the school inspection agency, said there had been no rise in the proportion of failing schools. The increase in failures merely reflected the growth in the number of schools inspected.

A total of 229 schools have failed inspections. 2 per cent of all those inspected. Fifteen have since been cleared and 11 have closed, including Hackney Downs School, in east London, the only one shut on government orders.

An Ofsted spokeswoman said: "A school can only be deemed to require special measures when it has been inspected and, given that we have not been once around the system, inevitably that list is growing. While it may appear that the number is rising, there is no sign of the proportion going up."

The Department for Education and Employment insisted that its approach was paying dividends, with two thirds of schools inspected shown to be improving. A spokeswoman said: "The Government has tackled the issue of failing schools vigorously, putting in place the inspection system which identifies weaknesses. We then legislate for special measures to improve or close those schools."

The National Union of Teachers voiced fears for perhaps the best-known failing school, The Ridings, in Halifax, as a result of an inspection of Calderdale local authority's services, which takes place next week. Calderdale will be the first authority to be inspected under arrangements still before Parliament in the Education Bill.

Doug McCauley, the NUT general secretary, said he feared the exercise could be used as an excuse to send a "hit squad" into the Ridings. "If the inspection is used in this way, it will discredit the whole idea of local authority inspections."



Artistic impression: John Bartlett with his depiction of the poll tax riot. Some observers said that it reminded them of Soviet heroic art

Riot painting creates style out of chaos

By ADRIAN LEE

A PAINTING that depicts poll tax rioters battling with police in Trafalgar Square is to be the centrepiece of an exhibition at the Museum of London.

John Bartlett's work shows fires blazing beneath Nelson's Column and officers in riot gear standing over a fallen protester. Yesterday the museum, where the picture will hang in the new London Now gallery, said it expected some people to be upset.

Dr Cathy Ross, a historian at the museum, said: "It is a picture of London as it is and we hope it will get visitors thinking. We like things to be striking to the point of controversy, but we have not set out to shock or stick two fingers up to the Establishment."

The 12ft by 9ft painting by the 36-year-old artist, from Stockwell, south London, is on a free loan. One theme of the gallery, which opens next Tuesday, is power; the picture will hang near the Lord Mayor's coach. The exhibition also features early editions of *The Big Issue*, the magazine for the homeless. A 3D work entitled *The Ghetto* shows squatters in conflict with developers.

Mr Bartlett said he intended the work to be apolitical: "There will always be people who get upset." The faces



The reality: rioters in Trafalgar Square in 1990. Bartlett studied photographs

with my wife. It was terrifying."

Toby Jessel, Conservative MP for Twickenham, and a member of the Select Committee on National Heritage, said: "In a free society you can't ban paintings like this, but it's a bit undergraduate, isn't it? It looks like something out of Soviet Russia." He saw the painting as biased against the police, who were portrayed as dark and sinister.

Richard Morrison, Arts Editor of *The Times*, also found Soviet parallels: "It is rather quaint and old-fashioned, like those heroic paintings of Soviet tractor drivers, with bulging muscles, from the 1930s."

A spokeswoman for the Department of National Heritage said: "The decision is one for the museum. The Government does not decide which paintings should be shown."

A Metropolitan Police spokesman said the force had no objection to the work. It was similar to one depicting a clash between anarchists and police in London in 1936.

PLUS

FREE INSTALLATION

ON ALL SATELLITE SYSTEMS

WITH THIS VOUCHER

Simply subscribe to all Sky Channels for 12 months



PACE SATELLITE SYSTEMS FROM ONLY £99.99

At Comet right now you'll find award winning satellite systems as reviewed by What Video & TV magazine from only £99.99.

GET CLOSER TO THE ACTION WITH THE LATEST STEREO TECHNOLOGY

Sky broadcast the majority of top movies and sport in Dolby Surround Sound. So why not get even closer to the action with the 3D Spatial Sound MSS 290 or Home Cinema MSS 1000.

PACE SATELLITE SYSTEM INCLUDING 60CM DISH

250 channels/3D Spatial Sound for Home Cinema effect Child lock/VCR timer/On-screen display 3 SCART sockets Remote control Model MSS 290

£99.99 **SAVE £50**

PACE HOME CINEMA SATELLITE SYSTEM INCLUDING 60CM DISH

250 channels/3D Spatial Sound for Home Cinema effect Child lock/VCR timer/On-screen display 4 SCART sockets Remote control Model MSS 1000

£189.99 **STEREO SOUND**

£229.99 **BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER**

£379.99 **BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER**

COMET

MOST STORES OPEN SUNDAY & UNTIL 8PM WEEKDAYS. RING FREE ON 0500 425 425 FOR DETAILS OF YOUR NEAREST STORE

Farmer in land dispute 'ran down councillor'

A FARMER ran down a parish councillor who objected to his plans to erect new buildings on his land, a court was told yesterday.

The victim, Anthony Taylor, 56, was out jogging past the farm when he was hit by the bullbars of David Morris's Nissan Patrol. He somersaulted over the bonnet and landed in a ditch with his pelvis broken in two places.

Mr Taylor, an architect, told Worcester Crown Court that Mr Morris then turned the car around as he lay in agony. "I was concerned he was going to drive over me again. I tried to scramble down into the ditch. He stood by me and threatened, 'No one messes with me. The next time, you will be in a wheelchair.'"

He spent six weeks in hospital recovering from the incident on Christmas Eve, 1995, at Cleeve Prior, near Evesham. Mr Morris, 45, denies causing grievous bodily harm with intent and dangerous driving. He insisted that Mr Taylor lost his balance on the muddy verge and fell into the road in front of his car.

Andrew Lockhart, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mr Morris's wife, Joanne, called an ambulance, but he became scared as other villagers gathered, and left the crash scene. Police arrested him three days later, but he refused to tell them where the Nissan was. He was said to have loaned it to a friend.

Mr Lockhart said: "The men were near neighbours but there was a great deal of bad blood between them."

Ten months earlier, Mr Morris's rottweiler had killed Mr Taylor's Staffordshire bull terrier. Mr Taylor had then strode round to the farm armed with a stick, and Mr Morris took out a court injunction to stop him going on his land.

Mr Taylor, who has lived in the village for 30 years, objected to new plans for the farm, where Mr Morris had moved in 1992. He said: "As a parish councillor I have a keen interest in environmental matters. It was nothing personal." The trial continues.

PRODUCT RECALL

ASDA Frozen Chinese Ready Meals

- Sweet & Sour Chicken with 5 Spice Rice 400g
- Chicken in Blackbean Sauce with White Rice 400g
- Hot & Spicy Chicken with White Rice 400g
- Chicken Satay with White Rice 400g

Due to a mistake when the product was made, a small number of ASDA Chicken Satay with White Rice frozen ready meals may have been wrongly packaged as any one of the other three frozen meals listed above.

Because the Chicken Satay contains peanuts, customers - particularly those allergic to nuts - who have bought any of these four meals should return the product to their nearest ASDA store for a full refund.

This announcement covers all 'Best Before' dates for the above products.

All other frozen meals stocked by ASDA are unaffected by this announcement.

ASDA

Blair could face MPs' inquiry into secret fund

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

PRESSURE is growing for Tony Blair to give evidence under oath to a public hearing of the Commons standards watchdog over the operation of his secret office fund.

The Standards and Privileges Committee, which has already prompted the resignation of one government minister, will begin an investigation into the management of the £500,000 trust within weeks. The trust is high on the committee's agenda, it was confirmed yesterday.

Mr Blair will be asked to give written evidence to the committee about the £500,000 in secret donations to fund his office expenses. Last night Labour strategists were dismayed by the development, which they fear could switch the spotlight from Tory party sleaze to Mr Blair's own backyard.

John Prescott, the deputy Labour leader, also receives substantial support for his office costs from a blind trust. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, receives financial help from the Industrial Research Trust, a third blind fund operated by the Labour Party. The revelation about the trusts came after Mr Blair instituted a policy of publishing donations to the party of more than £5,000.

The anonymous donations to Mr Blair were deemed acceptable by Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner, to prevent any allegations of cash for favours. Sir Gordon endorsed the fund in a report last summer, after being approached by Jonathan Powell, Mr Blair's chief of staff.

Members of the Tory-

controlled committee, however, never read the report, which Sir Gordon regarded as uninformative. He has now indicated to the committee that its members could "adopt a different view" over the precise financial arrangements. He has also made clear that he would find it hard to be "impartial" in any investigation after having sanctioned the arrangements.

Tory MPs are anxious to strike back at Labour and believe that Mr Blair is vulnerable over the fund. The donors include Michael Levy, a millionaire music publisher who is a friend of the Labour leader.

The committee, chaired by Tony Newman, Leader of the Commons, will deal with the Blair blind trust after it finishes questioning Andrew Mitchell, the Social Security Minister. He will give evidence next week on allegations that he tried to influence an inquiry into the former Trade Minister Neil Hamilton's role in the cash-for-questions affair. The committee's highly critical report on similar allegations against David Willetts recently led to his resignation as Paymaster General.

One senior Tory said: "It is a distinct possibility that members on the committee will agree to call Mr Blair to ensure it appears to be even-handed."

David Shaw, Tory MP for Dover, who lodged the complaint about the trust, said: "My complaint has to do with the thoroughness and properly of the anonymity of Blair's donors has been compromised. The concept of blind donors is a sham."



Tory TV broadcast dates suggest March election

By Jill Sherman

THE Tories are to bring forward their two remaining party political broadcasts before the general election campaign, according to speculation that John Major is preparing for a snap poll.

Although he has repeatedly emphasised that he prefers to wait until May 1 the two broadcasts are now scheduled for January 22 and February 13, reopening the possibility of a March 20 election.

The dates were disclosed on the eve of a new Labour campaign to be launched by Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, today. The campaign, featuring a poster showing a hand crushing a fresh egg, will focus on claims that the Tories intend to put VAT on food, children's clothing and newspapers. Mr

Cook will highlight the "Tory lies" in the 1992 general election campaign, when Mr Major insisted there were no plans to raise VAT then imposed it on fuel bills. The new poster claims that Tory plans to put VAT on food will cost voters £10.50 a week.

All main parties are entitled to five political broadcasts a year, but more are allowed once the election campaign has started. The Tories' decision to hold their last broadcasts so soon means that they could have six weeks without a prime television slot before the official election campaign starts.

Labour sources said that Mr Major's repeated public insistence on May 1 concealed his intention for a snap poll. They argued that this would allow the Tories to move the writ for a by-election in South

Wiltshire in early February then, two weeks later, say that it could be subsumed by the general election.

But senior Tory party sources insisted that the aim was simply to get the momentum going in the election campaign. One said: "We will have other ideas for publicity nearer the time."

If the Tories have any hope of reversing Labour's lead in the polls, they will need to start the turnaround within the next few weeks. They have already blitzed the country with their "Labour will end in tears" posters, but recent polls suggest they have had little impact yet.

Yesterday Tony Blair warned his MPs not to be complacent. He told the Parliamentary Labour Party: "The election is not over until the last vote has been cast."

Ex-PoWs offered hope in pay battle

By Adrian Lee

THE Armed Forces Minister gave his support yesterday to former prisoners of war who claim that the Government owes them at least £20 million for pay docked while they were held captive.

Nicholas Soames stopped short of bowing to the ex-servicemen's demands, although he said that his natural instincts were to resolve the matter. A review, begun last Summer, will be completed in March.

"We must go through this re-examination with the greatest possible care and settle this once and for all," Mr Soames said during a Commons debate. The former Second World War prisoners won all-party backing but Graham King, their spokesman, said: "We already have plenty of sympathy. We want action."

Previous inquiries have found against the veterans, who were held in Germany and Italy and returned home to find that their pay had been deducted. The Government has refused to compensate them, saying that the loss of records made it impossible.

More than 14,000 former officers and medical orderlies are affected. Under the Geneva Convention they should have received pay from the enemy. But they received nothing or worthless "laager marks". Some were even taxed on income they never received.

David Rendel, Liberal Democrat MP for Newbury, said: "It's never too late to right a wrong, but the wrong should be righted as quickly as possible."

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: Treasury questions to the Prime Minister; Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Bill; remaining stages; backbenchers' debate on government policy towards North Korea.

In the Lords: Firearms (Amendment) Bill; committee debate on care and welfare of ex-servicemen and women.

Ashdown's approach is more talk than substance

THE big election issue is public spending, not Europe, constitutional reform, or education. The most intractable problem facing any government after the election will be how to finance the public's desire for improving standards of health, welfare and social security. Both the Tories and Labour pretend this can be achieved without raising personal tax rates. The Liberal Democrats say they are the only party to be honest about public services and tax. But judging by Paddy Ashdown's *Liberal Democrat* News lecture last night, their candour is more rhetorical than substantive. His solutions do not match his aspirations.

Mr Ashdown is right about the sterility of the current debate on taxes and spending and in his view that what people "want is better services — and the knowledge that

the taxes they pay are being wisely spent". Any increase in spending and taxes needs to be justified in detail. But talking about value-for-money and eliminating bureaucracy achieves nothing. Mr Ashdown points to the shortcomings of the old "command-management" and "crude market" systems, but it is unclear what his "people first" approach means in practice. He talks of making NHS trusts more accountable to local communities, and more responsive to local needs and priorities, but is vague about how this would either meet public worries or would address the underlying funding dilemma.

Mr Ashdown is torn between his head and his heart. He accepts that some services are better provided by the private or voluntary sectors with the Government acting as commissioner rather than doer. However,

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

these goals are not shared by many local Liberal Democrats who defend existing structures and resist opting out and other initiatives to expand choice and raise standards. Mr Ashdown also believes that it is "both possible and necessary, over time, to bring the share of national income spent by government down below 40 per cent". He argues that this can be achieved through economic growth and an effective welfare-to-work strategy. That, as the Treasury committee's latest report implies, is over-optimistic. But Mr Ashdown is unwilling to admit the means needed to fulfil his ends.

His specific ideas skirt the real problem. Spending an extra £2 billion a year on education, paid for, if

necessary, by an extra penny on income tax, may help to relieve immediate pressures, but it is a short-term palliative. His ideas of health spending are as gimmicky and one-off as Labour's. His proposal that the National Audit Office and the Audit Commission should examine the additional health and education spending to see that the money raises standards and improves quality would not only undermine the current value of the two bodies as independent monitors but is muddled since extra money cannot be separated from existing funding.

There is no way of avoiding choices between public and private provision. As Andrew Dilnot of the Institute for Fiscal Studies told the Treasury committee, if current tight spending plans are to be met, "we will continue to see very

substantial growth in private spending on health and education because total health, education and retirement spending has always grown as a share of national income. If public spending does not grow, private spending will". Mr Dilnot argued that this question is being dodged by the politicians though it is "the single largest issue facing government in the next ten years in this country and the rest of the Continent".

Mr Ashdown fails to address these issues adequately. His proposed "Tax Contract" is essentially a way of making taxpayer provision more politically acceptable. No taxation without explanation is a soundbite, not a policy. Mr Ashdown has identified half the problem but he has not confronted his party's attachment to traditional public services.

PETER RIDDELL

THE BIGGEST MEDICAL COMPLAINT FOR PEOPLE OVER 50 IS

HOSPITAL WAITING LISTS

SAGA Hospital Care ensures you will never have to wait long for treatment

Queuing for an NHS operation, whether it is major or minor, is a dispiriting experience. But with SAGA's Hospital Care plan, developed exclusively for people aged 50 and over, waiting for months (even years) for treatment is eliminated.

This economical private medical scheme provides cover for immediate treatment for 12 of the most commonly suffered complaints, such as hip replacement and hernia. For other conditions, you should never have to wait longer than six weeks for hospital treatment after seeing your specialist.

If the NHS cannot admit you within this period, you may automatically go into hospital as a private patient, with all medical expenses paid.*

*Subject to policy conditions. †Limits do apply to some out-patient treatments.

SAGA Hospital Care is underwritten by Prime Health

For a free quotation and information pack, phone our dedicated Customer Service Team at Prime Health

01483 553 553

Ref No. M47918LS

SAGA

SAGA Services Ltd would like to send you information about services provided by other SAGA companies and may pass information to these companies to enable them to do so.

THERE IS ONLY ONE TIMBERLAND SALE.

TIMBERLAND, FIFTH FLOOR.

Up to 50% off Harrods usual price on selected items. Personal shoppers only. Subject to availability.

SALE OPENING HOURS:

Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays now to 31st, 10am - 6pm.
Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays now to 31st, 10am - 7pm.
Last day Saturday 1st February, 9am - 7pm.

Harrods

Harrods Ltd., Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7XL. Telephone: 0171-730 1234.

HEAL'S

WINTER SALE
ENDS SUNDAY 19TH JAN

TOTTENHAM CRT RD W1
KINGS RD SW3
TUNSGATE GUILDFORD

anyway
party
draw

if your pa
tomorrow, he
family

045 47 46

Netanyahu fights own party to seal withdrawal pact

By Christopher Walker
in Jerusalem
and Ben Macintyre

ISRAEL'S Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, yesterday faced a showdown with his 18-member Cabinet as he fought to push through the deal that would allow Israeli forces to withdraw from 80 per cent of occupied Hebron in the West Bank.

Despite fierce opposition from members of his own Likud Party, Mr Netanyahu was expected to squeeze a narrow majority. As reports circulated of the fierce Cabinet debate, Israel radio predicted the Prime Minister would secure an 11-7 victory. Mr Netanyahu would be expected to secure an overwhelming majority in favour of the deal when it goes before the 120-seat Knesset later today. Only about 30 deputies, most from the Right, are expected to oppose.

The Cabinet meeting took place against a background of praise for Mr Netanyahu from many parts of the Arab world and a 1.5 per cent jump in share values on the Tel Aviv market. But a group of furious right-wingers blew whistles outside in protest. "Hebron, bid for the Jews, good for the murderers" read one slogan recalling last year's election poster claiming "Netanyahu is good for the Jews".

At the meeting Benny Begin, the Science Minister and son of the former Likud Prime Minister, Menachem Begin,

opposed Mr Netanyahu. One Israeli official described their clash as "vociferous". Before going into the meeting, Mr Begin, a believer in the notion of a "Greater Israel", told army radio: "The Prime Minister committed himself to give away sections of the Jewish homeland. He has got zero from Arafat." Another ministerial opponent was Rafael Eitan, leader of the Tsomet Party. "I heard nothing which changes anything," the former army chief of staff said after talks with the Prime Minister. "This is a very dangerous deal to the Jews of Hebron... we are conferring advantages on those who still seek to destroy us."

Dovish members of the opposition Labour Party welcomed Mr Netanyahu "to the Oslo Club". Yossi Beilin, one of the architects of the original peace with the Palestinians, said: "The Prime Minister understands that the Oslo process is the only game in town."

As ministers wrangled over the deal, leading Israeli military commanders were demanding that the redeployment take place swiftly in order to thwart violent attempts by Jewish extremists to sabotage it by acts of violence. Military and police reinforcements were pumped into Hebron, where 450 Jewish settlers are surrounded by 120,000 resentful Palestinians. Although the accord said

that a ten-day period was allowed for the pullback to be completed, most army officers predicted that it would be over by the weekend. One officer said that, once the handover to the 400 Palestinian policemen had begun, it would take only a matter of hours to complete. To minimise the risk of violence, it is expected to begin under cover of darkness.

The deal — which embraces three further Israeli pullbacks from rural areas of the West Bank — was criticised by Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement. The militant group, which has strong support in Hebron, warned Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority "against launching an armed campaign against the movement... in accordance with pledges made under the deal".

Accompanying the accord were copies of what Israeli officials claimed was an important letter from Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, obliging Mr Arafat to launch a crackdown against Hamas extremists.

Yitzhak Shamir, the former right-wing Israeli Prime Minister, described the deal as a self-inflicted calamity for the Jewish state and predicted that it would rapidly collapse with further bloodshed.

Speaking in Paris, Mr Shamir, 81, told Europe 1 radio: "This accord is very bad for Israel. It's a defeat we have inflicted on ourselves."

Leading article, page 19
Photograph, page 22



An Israeli woman in Jerusalem weeps at a protest by right-wing groups against Benjamin Netanyahu's agreement to extended Palestinian self-rule in Hebron

Police move to restrain Jewish radicals

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN HEBRON

A FEW hours after the accord was reached to withdraw Israeli troops from most of Hebron, the city simmered with potential violence.

On the twisting road from Jerusalem there were long tailbacks as Israeli police and soldiers stopped cars suspected of carrying Jewish extremists intent on disrupting the withdrawal. For Hebron's 450 settlers, the 400 Palestinian policemen soon to be patrolling the city are terrorists.

The embattled mood of Jews who in last May's election voted for Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, was summed up by the sign on one Israeli bus, its windows reinforced against Arab stones. "Bibi is a traitor" charged the banner placed by members of Kach, an outlawed extremist group. Israeli

SECURITY

army commanders fear Kach may attempt a new massacre among the 120,000 Hebron Arabs. Kach members frequently make pilgrimages to the grotesque shrine of Baruch Goldstein in Hebron's mosque in 1994.

"I am very disappointed," Netanyahu wrote a book that said there should be no surrender to terrorism, and now he has signed an agreement with a terrorist group," said Noam Arnon, of the unofficial Hebron Jewish Militia.

Many Hebron Arabs remain equally convinced that more Jewish violence is inevitable. In the market area where Noam Friedman, 22, a right-wing Jewish soldier, wounded six Palestinians on New Year's Day in an abortive attempt to sabotage the talks, Palestinians mime his attack for TV crews who have taken up position in anticipation of what one described as "good bang bang".

With reports of thousands of illegal guns circulating in a warren where Arab-Jewish hatred is palpable, many merchants are convinced they will not have to wait long.

Clinton acclaims win for hardball diplomacy

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON joined a host of world leaders in hailing the Hebron agreement as a step towards lasting peace in the Middle East, but issued a warning against weakening resolve by the parties involved.

The White House portrayed the deal as a personal triumph for Mr Clinton and Warren Christopher, the outgoing Secretary of State. In many re-

REACTION

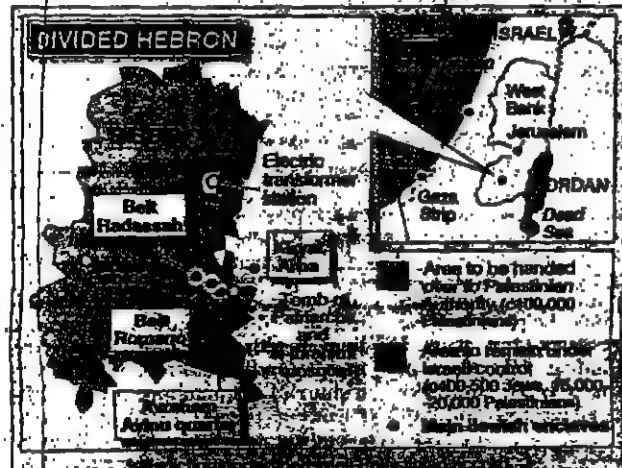
spects, however, the reluctant handshake at Erez Crossing was more a victory for America's hardball diplomacy than anything else. The announcement on Sunday by Dennis Ross, Mr Clinton's special envoy, that the United States had finally lost its patience, proved to be the final catalyst.

In Washington, Mr Clinton praised Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Yasser Arafat, the President of the Palestinian Authority, but also gave glowing plaudits to the American diplomatic team.

Britain and France said the agreement paved the way for future pacts to secure peace. Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, sent messages to Mr Netanyahu and Mr Arafat addressing them as "dear friend". China, emphasising the principle of exchanging peace for occupied Arab territory, said it welcomed the deal.



Ross told participants that America had lost patience



Biblical city turned into battleground

HEBRON'S explosive mix of holiness and violence stretches back to biblical times (Christopher Walker writes). It is one of the four holy cities of Judaism (with Jerusalem, Tiberias and Safed) because of its links to the biblical patriarchs and King David. The city is also holy to Islam, which reveres Abraham as a precursor of Muhammad.

Circa 1800 BC: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob buried in the Cave of Machpelah, also known as the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Between 37 and 4 BC: Herod erects wall around Cave of Machpelah.

AD 400-500: Byzantine control; church built over the Cave.

FLASHPOINT

635-1000: Arabs conquer and rule the city; Machpelah church turned into a mosque.
1100-1260: Crusader rule brings temporary end to Jewish presence.
1260: Mamelukes expel crusaders; Jews begin to return.
1266: Decree, enforced through to the 20th century, bars Jews from Cave.
1918: British capture Hebron; Jewish presence recovers to 700 by 1929.
1929: Arabs slaughter 67 Jews; rest of Jews evacuated to Jerusalem.
1931: first 35 Jewish families return.

1936: Arab uprising; British evacuate Jews.
1948-67: Jordanian rule.
1967: Israel captures the city; Jewish quarter found destroyed.
1968: Rabbi Moshe Levinger, a hardliner, leads Jewish families posing as Swiss tourists, founds settlement of Kiryat Arba.
1979: Group of Jewish women and children move into Beit Hadassah building. Allowed to stay after Palestinians kill six Jews in Hebron the next summer.
1994: Baruch Goldstein, a New York-born settler, murders 29 Arabs at prayer.
March 28, 1996: Date originally planned for Israeli military redeployment.

£
£
£
£
£
£

If your partner died tomorrow, how could your family survive?

No one likes to think about the possibility of untimely death. But it's better to face it now than for your family to face financial hardship should you die unexpectedly. And it does happen. One in four of all men aged 30 die before they reach 65. And every year, 38,000 women die before their 65th birthday.*

Could your family survive financially?

The good news is that with the Woolwich life assurance costs so little that there's no reason why your family shouldn't be fully protected.

A premium equal to just 30p a day could provide up to £150,000 protection for your family, depending on your age and personal circumstances. It would also mean complete peace of mind for you.

We can give you an instant quotation over the phone.

FREE ACCIDENTAL DEATH COVER

You could qualify for instant cover against accidental death, free, for 14 days while you decide whether or not to go ahead.

We'll even help you fill out the application form, to make the process even simpler.

Call us now quoting ref: TT161.

*Source: OPCS Statistics 1995.

WE'RE STRAIGHT DOWN THE LINE

0345 47 46 47

WOOLWICH DIRECT

Woolwich Direct is a service provided by Woolwich Building Society which represents only the Woolwich Marketing Group, which is regulated by the Financial Services Authority for Life Assurance and Unit Trust business. Life Assurance policies will be issued by Woolwich Life, a subsidiary of Woolwich Building Society. Applications for a Woolwich Life policy and the premium you pay will depend upon factors such as your age, sex, smoking habits, health and the size and duration of the policy. Financial Office of Woolwich Building Society and Registered Office of Woolwich Life Assurance Company Limited: Corporate Headquarters, Watling Street, Watlington, Oxfordshire, OX12 9BB. Date: Dec 1996. LPO5

MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS

A CABLE & WIRELESS COMPANY

BT TO INDIA:

£12.63

MERCURY TO INDIA:

£9.44

(SO TALK CAN BE CHEAP.)

A saving of £3.19 on a 10 minute call to India is certainly worth talking about. And the fact we're still 20% to 39% cheaper than BT on international calls, is a real conversation point. For details **FreeCall 0500 500 366**.

Mercury SmartCall

You don't have to be a genius to see how much you'll save.

Prices quoted to India based on a 10 minute economy call. Prices and savings correct as at 31 December 1996, compared with BT's basic rate for international calls of 5 minutes or more, 6pm-Sun weekdays and any time at weekends. Savings available for a quarterly fee of £5.75 (inc. VAT). <http://www.mercury.co.uk>

Former CIA drug fighter accused of smuggling cocaine

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

THE former head of a CIA-financed anti-drug unit in Venezuela has been charged in a Miami court with smuggling tonnes of cocaine into the United States. The case highlights an intense debate over the intelligence agency's involvement in drug policy.

Under General Ramón Guillén, once one of the CIA's most trusted Latin American informants, the Venezuelan National Guard's anti-drug bureau allegedly shipped 22 tonnes of cocaine into America in the 1980s and early 1990s.

American officials say at least one — maybe two — of those shipments, totalling more than a tonne, were approved by the CIA as part of a "sting" operation to infiltrate a Colombian drug syndicate. The CIA hoped that by letting the drugs reach their intended destination in America they would be able to gather vital intelligence about the drug smuggling networks in Colombia, while also increasing the credibility of its undercover operations, which included maintaining a well-placed informant within the drug cartels.

The CIA's involvement in such risky sting operations is deeply frowned on at the Drug Enforcement Administration, the American government agency that investigates drug traffickers. DEA officials privately argue that the CIA has no business involving itself in a specialised field in which the CIA has no experience.

The CIA's involvement in the drug war has come under fire recently because of its reliance on intelligence sources with records for corruption and human rights abuses.

The most notorious example was the Panamanian dictator, General Manuel Noriega, a longtime CIA operative who was convicted of drug trafficking

in 1992. More recently the CIA has faced allegations that the agency was involved in introducing crack to poor black districts of Los Angeles as part of a plan to finance Contra rebels fighting the Marxist Sandinista Government in Nicaragua.

General Guillén was charged after a civilian employee of his anti-drug unit — and alleged fellow conspirator — was extradited to America last week.

General Guillén was briefly arrested on drug-trafficking charges in Venezuela in 1992, but was later freed. Safe from extradition, he remains free, living in the capital, Caracas, in a modest home with none of the trappings of a drug smuggler. The general denies the charges and says that he would like to come to America to clear his name.

General Guillén admits sending almost two tonnes of cocaine into America, but insists that he made no money from the drugs and that both the CIA and the DEA agent were informed of each shipment.

"We always told the American authorities," he said, "Nothing could be done without their authorisation."



Noriega: convicted of drug trafficking

'Bigamy' charge for daughter of Gandhi

FROM AGENCY FRANCE-PRESSE IN DELHI

PRIYANKA GANDHI, India's most eligible bachelor girl and due to marry next month, is already espoused, it was claimed yesterday.

Miss Gandhi, 26, who boasts an impeccable pedigree with three former Prime Ministers in her father, grandmother and great-grandfather, was scheduled to appear in a Delhi court yesterday to answer charges that she had wed Vicharapu Ramkrishna Gowd in 1991.

Sources close to the family said she would not appear personally. Earlier, a statement by the Gandhis denied the reported nuptials. "These allegations... are absolutely without any basis and have been made with malicious intent," it said. "Since the matter is in the court, we will restrain ourselves from making any further comment."

Reports said Mr Gowd, 41, a villager from southern India — once jailed for molesting a doctor — had made similar claims before. His list of celebrity wives includes top film actresses Jayaprada and Sridevi.

Mr Gowd, a law graduate, said he was a frequent visitor to the Gandhi family home as an activist of the Congress party. He said he married Priyanka in 1991 but separated later after differences.

He told the court Miss Gandhi figured as his wife in the voters' list and offered it as proof of the reported marriage.

Miss Gandhi is scheduled to marry Robert Wadhwa, a businessman, on February 5.



Priyanka Gandhi, who is due to marry a businessman early next month, is due to appear in court over charges that she already has a husband

Hostage talks agreed

Lima: The Marxist Tupac Amaru rebels, who hold 74 hostages inside the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima, yesterday accepted a government proposal to take part in a "commission of guarantors" — intended as a forum for talks between the rebels and the authorities (Gabriella Gamini writes).

It was the first sign in weeks that the guerrillas are prepared to negotiate, although they continue to insist on the release of hundreds of their imprisoned comrades.

Democrat resigns in Gingrich affair

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

JIM McDERMOTT, the senior Democrat investigating Newt Gingrich, boosted Republican unity on Capitol Hill yesterday after he resigned from the ethics inquiry and became the focus of FBI questions over an allegedly illegal taped conversation of the House Speaker.

Federal agents started their investigation into an incident which began when a couple of Democratic activists in Florida intercepted a cellular telephone conversation between Mr Gingrich and other Republican leaders.

The taped conversation was passed to Mr McDermott and a transcript later found its way to two newspapers. Republicans claim he deliberately leaked details of the secret recording as part of a political

which-bunt to demonstrate the House Speaker who was narrowly re-elected last week but faces punishment for violating ethics rules. Excusing himself from the ethics committee inquiry, Mr McDermott said the process had been perverted by partisan politics.

The immediate action taken by the FBI after the secret tape was passed to the Justice Department was seen yesterday as a public relations coup in Republican circles. The matter can only help to bring unity to the party after months of pessimism following President Clinton's re-election and the long shadow of the Gingrich affair.

William Rees-Mogg, page 18
American books, page 35

Murder of child beauty queen robs town of innocence

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN BOULDER, COLORADO

A GRIM cloak of silence and half a foot of snow have fallen over the mock-Tudor mansion where six-year-old JonBenet Ramsey was found strangled to death on Boxing Day. Three weeks on, the case has become a national obsession and the girl's parents have hired a celebrated FBI investigator in an apparent attempt to crack it.

Tucked beneath the Rockies, the home of the little girl who wanted to be Miss America stands deserted. Yellow tape denoting a crime scene has gone, replaced by two white teddy bears with unopened condolence cards on the porch — a makeshift shrine to a miniature beauty queen.

The crime that has robbed Boulder of its image as America's most perfect college town remains unsolved, but as police investigate it under an unprecedented news blackout, a noose of suspicion is tightening around the victim's father and his surviving family.

John Bennett Ramsey, a 58-year-old software millionaire, and his wife, Patsy, have declined to provide further information to the police since finding their daughter gagged and dead in the cellar where a day before her presents had been stored. After going on CNN to say their daughter's killer was at large and dangerous, they went into hiding, shielded by two lawyers and a media spokesman.

No signs of forced entry were found at the Ramsey home, and police have confirmed that only JonBenet, her nine-year-old brother, Burke, and their parents were in the house on the night of the murder.

A notepad on which a fake ransom note was written, demanding \$118,000 (£71,000) for the girl's return, came from within the house, sources said last week. Detectives say whoever killed her must have known the house intimately to abduct her without disturbing other family members.

The family summoned local officials on Tuesday by hiring John Douglas, a former head

of the FBI's elite behavioural science unit and the model for a central character in *Silence of the Lambs*, the Oscar-winning film about a serial killer. Mr Douglas was closely involved in the so-called Unabomber case and pioneered the macabre art of thinking into the mind of a murderer.

"Anybody who thinks this family could have committed this atrocious thing is insane," a former nanny to the family said as rumours ran wild.

Friends closed ranks against the media as reports emerged of semen traces being found on the body. Samples are being analysed at Colorado's leading laboratory and the results could be known within two weeks.

Leslie Durgin, the Mayor of Boulder, has issued an assurance that "there isn't a crazed killer on the loose".

Police may have restricted their list of suspects to as few as eight or nine, according to *Newsweek*, whose cover this week shows a shockingly adult JonBenet Ramsey in a sequined cowgirl hat and salon-curl blonde tresses.

Scandal and the media spotlight are alien to Boulder, described by the *Denver Post* as "a little town nestled between the mountains and reality". Frequently voted America's "most liveable" small city, it boasts only 3 per cent unemployment, with the Rocky Mountain National Park a 20-minute drive away and almost no violent crime.

JonBenet was the only murder there in 1996.

"It's a make-believe kind of place," said David Costello, working in a photocopying shop ten blocks from the abandoned Ramsey home at 755 West 15th Street. "People here tend to have a lot of money but we still leave our doors unlocked at night."

When a tabloid magazine printed coroners' photographs this week, of the wooded garotte used to strangle JonBenet, every newspaper in Boulder returned its copies to the publisher.



John Ramsey and his wife, Patsy, insisting on CNN that their daughter's murder was a hoax

YOU GET MORE FOR YOUR MONEY WITH CELLPHONES DIRECT

NOKIA

GSM DIGITAL PHONES WITH 1 SECOND BILLING

GSM MODEL 1610

- Up to 3.5 hrs talk-time
- Up to 100 hrs standby-time
- Up to 200 name/number memory stored on SIM
- NIMH battery & fast travel charger
- Fast recharge - 35 mins
- Weight 250g

ONLY £9.99 inc. VAT

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £50

SIEMENS

NEW MODEL

GSM MODEL 56

- Up to 4 hrs talk-time
- Up to 30 hrs standby-time
- Up to 200 name/number memory stored on SIM
- Lithium ion battery
- Fast recharge
- Super slim design
- Weight 165g

ONLY £9.99 inc. VAT

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £50

ERICSSON

GSM MODEL Q4318

- Up to 230 mins talk-time
- Up to 67 hrs standby-time
- Up to 200 name/number memory stored on SIM
- NIMH battery & fast charger
- Data compatible
- Weight 248g

ONLY £9.99 inc. VAT

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £50

ORDER NOW WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

FREEPHONE 0800 000 888
CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS 9AM-10PM WEEKENDS 10AM-11PM

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD HANDY WHEN YOU CALL AND QUOTE REFERENCE 0178 (SORRY WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SWITCH CARDS)
PersonalWorld peak rates are 5.00-20.00 Mins in UK. Mandatory standard billing will be charged at £1.77 inc. VAT per month. Low credit facilities available at request and more charges will be added to your regular monthly bill. Call charges in 1 second units. Offer subject to credit and a standard before contract for each phone. Call charges Direct Ltd. Ltd. Lower Standard Rate. Recommended retail prices: Nokia 1610, full with delivery, and terms and conditions of this offer are available on request. © Copyright. Registered No. 255522. Offer valid for 30 days from date of publication.

Cellphones

The name to trust in telephone shopping

2 MONTHS FREE LINE RENTAL ON THESE THREE PHONES worth £35.26 inc. VAT

10 FREE CALLS £10 worth of calls inc. VAT off your next bill

SAVE UP TO 50% On shopping and leisure with the Cellphones Direct Advantage Card

FREE LIFETIME PRODUCT WARRANTY

PRICE PLEDGE

We'll match any nationally advertised price for these phones

VODAFONE PERSONALWORLD WITH ONE SECOND BILLING

Duration £35.26 (£30 + VAT)
Monthly Rental £17.63 (£15 + VAT)
Peak Rate Calls 35.25p per min (30p + VAT)
Off Peak Calls 11.75p per min (10p + VAT)

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND

YOUR PHONE IS COVERED BY OUR 14 DAYS NO QUIBBLE MONEY BACK PROMISE AND LIFETIME PRODUCT WARRANTY.

Thousands embroiled in Seoul violence

Seoul: Hurling pieces of paving slab and enduring blasts of teargas, thousands of workers and students fought police in Seoul yesterday in an attempt to overturn a new labour law.

Tens of thousands of other workers demonstrated in South Korea's other main cities against the law, which they say threatens jobs. The violence came as a series of nationwide strikes appeared to be losing ground and the Government moved to arrest strike leaders.

Dozens of bonfires blazed in streets of the capital as rapid-fire blasts rang out from multiple teargas launchers. The fighting turned central areas into a battleground and the police for the second time in five days. The most violent clashes were on an eight-lane road where 5,000 protesters confronted several thousand police.

A rally by 40,000 workers had turned violent when 12,000 riot police tried to prevent them from pouring into the streets. The demonstrators broke into several groups to march to the nearby Roman Catholic cathedral, a sanctuary from which seven union leaders have been orchestrating strikes for three weeks. (AP)

Brussels: A delegation of international trade unionists in Seoul has been threatened with deportation by the authorities for "engaging in political activities", the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions said here yesterday. (AFP)

UNSECURED PERSONAL LOANS

12.3% APR

12.9% APR

13.9% APR

14.9% APR

14.9% APR

Loan	48 Monthly Payments	Total Amount Paid	Direct Loan Saving
RBS Direct	£124.18	£5,959.68	
TSB	£137.95	£6,621.06	
Barclays	£134.70	£6,405.20	
NetWest	£134.10	£6,435.50	

Loan	48 Monthly Payments	Total Amount Paid	Direct Loan Saving
RBS Direct	£215.35	£10,337.28	
TSB	£235.73	£11,315.04	
Barclays	£232.77	£11,172.96	
NetWest	£230.59	£11,067.52	

PHONE FREE NOW FOR AN IMMEDIATE DECISION
0800 121 125

PLEASE QUOTE CODE D02 WHEN CALLING

Or complete the information below and post to: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, FREEPOST, 101 Priory Street, Manchester M1 4DP (no stamp required)

Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms)
First Name (in full)
Address
Postcode
Tel. Day
Tel. Evening

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Registered Office: 25 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EC2 9R. Registered in Scotland No. 00322. All loans are subject to your financial standing. Loan applications must be aged 18 or over. A further application to any other credit provider is available on request. We may use to discuss your account. Telephone calls may be recorded for security or training purposes.

Crowded Athens hampers archaeologists as they uncover roots of ancient world

Discovery of Aristotle's school fuels hunt for lost landmarks

FROM JOHN CARR IN ATHENS

THE reported discovery of the 4th century BC school founded by Aristotle has whetted archaeologists' appetites for other lost landmarks of ancient Athens that must be lying beneath the modern city.

The Acropolis and the monuments on and around it are just the visible tip of a vast hidden trove of relics. "There are undoubtedly large areas where there is a lot to be found," David Blackman, Director of the British School of Archaeology, said. The main problem for scholars is that central Athens is so built up that systematic scientific exploration is all but impossible.

Most of the time it is up to workers digging the foundations for new buildings to uncover tantalising glimpses of history. This week one such team of workers, clearing the space for a museum of modern art, uncovered what was almost certainly Aristotle's Lyceum.

A stone's throw from the present British Embassy, the Lyceum was identified by traces of the extensive walling and exercising space described by classical writers.

Polyxeni Bouya, an archaeologist employed by the Greek Ministry of Culture, called the emerging wall layout "the main substantial clue, and a very persuasive one", adding: "The date of the ruins correlates absolutely."

The discovery apparently clears up years of scholarly dispute about the location of the Lyceum, founded by Aristotle about 335 BC. Archaeological maps of Athens placed it as straddling the present Botanical Gardens, next to the

parliament building across the road from the local British Airways office. "There seems to be no doubt about it: that is the Lyceum, although a bit further east than we thought it to be," Mr Blackman said.

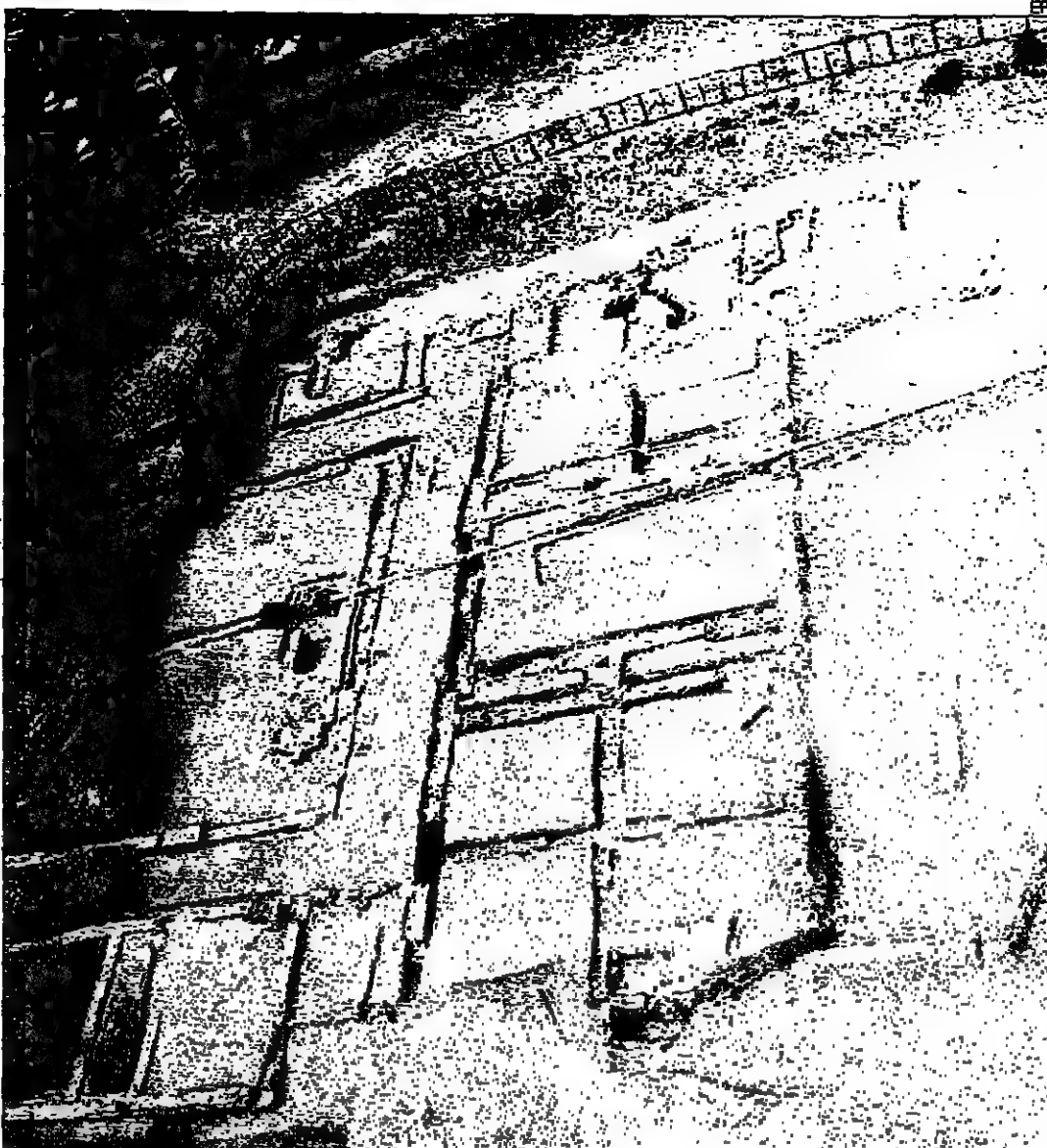
Sandwiched between the Athens Conservatory and the Officers' Club, the site would have escaped attention completely if Athens City Council had not approved a plan last year to cut down its olive and pine trees and build a museum, overriding protests by environmentalists and nearby flat dwellers.

Four years of work on the Athens metro have also brought windfalls to the archaeologists, although they are unhappy about the Government's impatience to get the metro working by 1999. The archaeological service has managed to get work halted temporarily on at least one underground station near the Acropolis on the ground that too many relics, including pottery shards and fragments of marble monuments and statues, were being discarded too hastily.

□ **Skeletons found:** The skeletons of about 100 newborn babies, found in a sewer under a 4th century AD bathhouse in Ashkelon, southern Israel, were probably killed as the unwanted offspring of prostitutes and their clients (Nigel Hawkes writes).

Lamps decorated with erotic images and the inscription "Enos Enioi" found at the site suggest that it was used as a brothel, a team of scientists say in this week's *Nature*.

Leading article, page 19



Remains, believed to be those of Aristotle's Lyceum, which have been uncovered in the centre of Athens, not far from the British Embassy. The site was found accidentally by building workers

Laying foundations of academic prowess

BY PHILIP HOWARD

ARISTOTLE'S Lyceum has turned up where the evidence pointed: outside ancient Athens, between the steep little urban Mount Lycabettus and the stream Ilissos. Or in a modern guide, between the central avenues of Rigillis and Vasilissis Sofias, behind the War Museum and 200 yards from the British Embassy.

This first university has left its name to the French *lycée*, the Italian *liceo*, and many literary, scientific and cultural institutions, cinemas and even dance halls in England. The name comes from Apollo Lycæus, the local god of the grove where Aristotle set up his college and gymnasium on the eastern outskirts. And Lycæus means either (the god) from Lycia (south-western Turkey) or "the wolf-killer". Aristotle was born at Stagira, on the northernmost fringe of civilisation. He first came to Athens at the age of 17 to study at Plato's Academy. When Plato died, Aristotle had to leave Athens in a hurry, probably because of hostility to his Macedonian connections. He was then invited by Philip of Macedonia to become the tutor of his son Alexander (the Great) — the world's greatest teacher meets its greatest conqueror.

Aristotle's opinion of his pupil's ability is unknown, but in later years the relationship was distant. In *Politics*, Aristotle writes that rule by an absolute monarch can be justified only

if the person were as far superior to existing humans in intellect and character as humans are to beasts. He pointedly fails to mention his former pupil as a candidate for monarchy. After Alexander graduated from conquering the world, Aristotle returned to Athens and set up his Lyceum.

His school later took its name of Peripatetics from the *peripatos* or colonnade in the Lyceum where masters and undergraduates walked, talked and solved the problems of the world. But when Alexander died, another outbreak of anti-Macedonian feeling forced Aristotle to pack his bags in a hurry again. He retired to his birthplace in the barbarian north, where he died of a digestive complaint. In the Lyceum, Aristotle spent most of his time in writing or holding seminars with a small group of serious students. Some of them went on to become distinguished scholars. Theophrastus who succeeded Aristotle as head of the Lyceum, made important modifications to Aristotle's modal logic and founded botany as a scientific study. Eudemus, another of his pupils at the Lyceum, helped to improve Aristotelian logic and compiled histories of arithmetic and geometry, astronomy and theology. So these pupils started the great tradition of a community of scholars, standing on the intellectual shoulders and carrying on the work of their great predecessor.



Aristotle: the thinker

"Fantastic Sale Offers on Kitchens."

B&Q

SALE

ANGELA NEILSON
Kitchen Sales Adviser
B&Q STIRLING

UP TO 33% OFF

SELECTED KITCHEN UNITS



Glendale Solid oak doors and drawers with arched panels and antique brass effect knobs.

9 Unit Kitchen Example as shown:

Was £814.91

NOW **£543.25**

UP TO 2 YEARS

0% INTEREST FREE CREDIT

ON SELECTED KITCHENS†

Up to 2 years Interest Free Credit available when you spend \$1,800 or more on 28 kitchens in the range.

PURCHASE PRICE.....	\$1,800
REPAYABLE IN 18 MONTHLY INSTALMENTS OF ONLY.....	£80
20% MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF.....	\$360
LOAN VALUE.....	\$1,440
TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE (0%APR).....	\$1,800

Your purchase can include accessories, worktops, sinks, taps, appliances and installation costs.

†Interest Free Credit subject to acceptance, to UK residents only. 20% minimum deposit required. IFC not applicable to discounted kitchens or kitchens stocked in store. Written quotations available on request. Ask in store for details. B&Q plc.

PURCHASE PRICE	CREDIT PERIOD
\$1,800 - \$2,399.99	18 months
\$2,400 or more	24 months

PERSONAL LOANS

rest rates from 1% APR

an afford to row more

INTRODUCING A NEW APPROACH TO HEALTH VISITING

A DOCTOR WHEN YOU'RE WELL.

As any doctor will tell you, prevention is better than cure — and that's the simple idea behind BUPA Health Monitor: a health screening programme which can help detect the early signs of health problems.

First there's a full health assessment — covering a range of tests from blood analysis to cardiovascular fitness. Then we continue to monitor your health. BUPA Health Monitor normally costs £340 for men and £360 for women, however if you book before January 31st 1997, you can obtain a reduction of £50.

£50 OFF (UNTIL JAN 31st 1997)

BUPA Health Monitor is available to everyone, not just BUPA members. For further information, or to make an appointment, phone 0800 616 029 quoting reference BUPA 8E, or fill in the coupon below. But do it now, while you're well — and stay that way.

Please post to BUPA Health Screening, FREEPOST, London WC1X 8SR. You don't even need a stamp.

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Tel (day) _____ (eve) _____

You're amazing. We want you to stay that way.

BUPA Health Screening

EARN TESCO CLUBCARD POINTS AT B&Q

Pop into your local B&Q for your copy of the B&Q Kitchens brochure.

OPENING HOURS

Monday-Saturday: Most stores 9am-6pm.
Sunday: Most stores 10am-4pm (where permitted).
Scotland & Northern Ireland: Same as above.
Certain store hours may vary, please phone your nearest store to confirm.

BIGGER CHOICE • A BETTER PRICE

B&Q

YOU CAN DO IT WHEN YOU B&Q IT!

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST D.I.Y. CHAIN - FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE PHONE 0800 600 900

We're now on the Internet - <http://www.bq.co.uk>

Ask in-store for details of all offers. Offers may vary at B&Q Warehouse and B&Q Depots. See in-store for details of our price promise. All kitchens may not be displayed in all stores but can be ordered from any B&Q. Installation only available with purchases of B&Q kitchens and not included in discount offers, ask in store for details and costs.

Socialists forced into concession on Bulgarian poll

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN SOFIA

IN THE face of continuing strikes and protests over Bulgaria's desperate economic situation, the ruling Socialists yesterday agreed to elections at the end of this year instead of at the end of 1998.

Socialist MPs returned to the parliament building, which has been closed and cordoned off since it was damaged during violent clashes last weekend between demonstrators and police. But the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) continued to boycott the parliament, and thousands of its supporters blew whistles and sounded car horns outside the building in an attempt to drown out the proceedings.

Ironically it was the rejection by the Socialists (the former Communists) of a UDF motion calling for early elections which set off last Friday's riots. Nikolai Kamov, one of the more reform-minded Socialist leaders, said the

best solution was to dissolve parliament in view of "the powerful waves of protests".

Millions of workers, including coalminers and steel workers, downed tools yesterday in a series of one-hour warning strikes. Podkrepa, the union loyal to the UDF, said the unions were building up to a nationwide strike.

Doctors and hospital staff also joined the strikes yesterday complaining that, because

Investors run riot in Tirana

Tirana: About 500 protesters demanding their money back from a failed pyramid investment scheme broke away from a demonstration and fought riot police in the Albanian capital yesterday, witnesses said. There were several arrests. (Reuters)

Bulgaria's hospitals were bankrupt, they could no longer accept patients, even for serious operations.

Some Socialist leaders are said to favour a caretaker government to negotiate a currency stabilisation package with the International Monetary Fund until elections are held. However, the newspaper *Trud* said the two other options were that Zhan Videnov, the Socialist who resigned as Prime Minister last month, might stay on for a few months or that Nikolai Dobrev, the Interior Minister, might form an interim administration.

All eyes are now on the inauguration on Sunday of Petar Stoyanov as President. Mr Stoyanov, a conservative lawyer elected last November on a wave of anti-Socialist feeling, favours elections in the summer rather than at the end of the year, and is trying to broker a compromise.



Members of the Danish Royal Family waving to a crowd at Amalienborg Castle in Copenhagen on the Silver Jubilee of Queen Margrethe yesterday. From left, Crown Prince Frederik, Princess Alexandra, Queen Margrethe, Ingrid the Queen Mother, Prince Consort Henrik and Prince Joachim

THE FIAT BRAVA 1.4SX FOR ONLY £129 A MONTH*

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT.

"AND I'M THE QUEEN OF SHEBA."



TYPICAL FINANCE EXAMPLE			
Cash Price (on the road)	£11,723.98	23 Monthly Payments	£128.23
Deposit	£4,103.98	Final Payment (inc £25 option fee)	£5,062.40
Amount Financed	£7,620.00	APR	4.4%
Term	25 Months	Interest Charged	£494.92
First Payment (inc £60 admin fee)	£188.23	Total Payable	£12,303.90

ELECTRIC SUNROOF ■ DRIVER'S AIRBAG

CENTRAL LOCKING ■ SPLIT REAR SEAT

POWER STEERING ■ IMMOBILISER

ELECTRIC FRONT WINDOWS ■ BODY COLOURED BUMPERS

No word of a lie, you can now buy the luxury-laden Fiat Brava 1.4SX for a smidgen under £130 a month (plus deposit and final payment).

To prove we're not pulling your leg, pull out your finger and call us on 0800 71 7000. Or try <http://www.fiat.com> on the Internet for more information.

DRIVEN BY PASSION **FIAT**

Spain on course for clash on Gibraltar

FROM TUNGU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

THE Madrid Government has put Spain on course for a diplomatic collision with Britain by suggesting that it could soon refuse to recognise the validity of all passports issued in Gibraltar.

British sources said yesterday that "any negative move" on Gibraltar passports could put at risk next week's Spanish visit by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary.

Reacting to the prospect of a unilateral "derecognition" of passports, the Gibraltar administration said that "relations with Spain were approaching their lowest ebb" since the Franco era. Thousands of Gibraltarians might be denied entry to Spain.

Francis Cantos, Gibraltar's spokesman, said such a move would "create havoc at the Gibraltar-Spain border" and inflict incalculable damage to basic neighbourly relations.

The plan was revealed in a recent letter to the British Embassy in which Spain's Foreign Ministry indicated it was proposing to treat as defunct a 1960 Anglo-Spanish visa waiver treaty which also covered British passport holders from Gibraltar.

The letter said that, since the freedom of movement in the European Union was guaranteed for EU citizens, such bilateral instruments "were no longer necessary".

Madrid now argues that Gibraltarians fall under a separate category of "dependent territories", without the same rights of movement as residents of Britain.

A senior Spanish Foreign Ministry official said yesterday that "the multiplicity of types of British passport" was making difficulties for Spanish border officials and that the British passport issued by Gibraltar "would have to come under fresh scrutiny".

Leading article, page 19

Yeltsin brushes off threat to his job

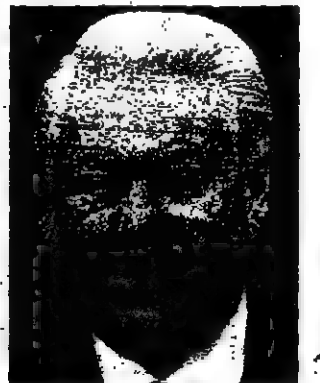
FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN, apparently unperturbed by attempts to begin impeachment proceedings on health grounds, will remain in hospital at least until the end of the week.

Sergei Mironov, chief doctor at the Kremlin, said yesterday that Mr Yeltsin's condition had stabilised since he was admitted to the Central Clinical Hospital last Wednesday for treatment of pneumonia, but he noted that the illness could involve a range of complications.

Doctors insist that Mr Yeltsin's latest ailment is unconnected with the heart trouble that kept him in hospital or in a sanatorium for much of the second half of last year.

There have been growing calls by opposition leaders for Mr Yeltsin to step down on health grounds. This week Viktor Ilyukhin, a Communist Party parliamentary deputy, announced that he was beginning impeachment proceedings in the State Duma. Last night Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, said he was considering supporting the move. Mr Ilyukhin's proposal appears unlikely to get anywhere: the constitution does not provide for impeachment on health grounds.



Yeltsin: impeachment move is unlikely to work

Le Johnny rocks on in faithful France

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRANCE'S veteran rock star Johnny Halliday has been saved for the nation and will not, after all, be seeking American citizenship.

The day after M Halliday reportedly told USA Today that he wanted to become American because "French people are very rude" and "everything in America is better", the 53-year-old singer spent yesterday feverishly reassuring fans in France (where every one of the 80 million records he has sold has been bought) that he is French to the core.

M Halliday's following in France is huge, adoring and jealous, and the suggestion that he might be planning to defect has caused exceedingly bad vibrations among the faithful.

"We almost lost Johnny," declared *Le Parisien*, while another newspaper stated: "Ouf, you'll never call me Yankee Halliday." "I am French and proud of it," proclaimed M Halliday, who was born Jean-Philippe Smet and whose father was a Belgian cabaret singer. For many French people, the man known as "The French Elvis" is living, stomping proof that while France may be fighting a losing battle with America in most areas of popular culture it has colonised a small corner of rock 'n' roll.

"I have absolutely no intention of becoming American. I never said any of that," M Halliday insisted, adding that the American newspaper had misquoted him. "I know that the French people have made me... if the French are rude, then so am I."

He may have chosen an American-sounding name, he may have married an American and he may spend much of the year on a yacht in Florida, but "Le Johnny" is, he insists, a true son of France. Two weeks ago he was presented with the *Légion d'Honneur*.

Scandal deepens over Hong Kong chief's forced exit

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

HONG KONG'S normally staid Legislative Council chamber rang with accusations of "bias" and "cover-up" yesterday as the scandal deepened over the abrupt retirement of Lawrence Leung, the colony's former Director of Immigration.

W.K. Lam, the Secretary of the Civil Service, criticised Mr Leung after last week's disclosure by Mr Leung that he had virtually been forced to retire on five hours' notice after 31 years' government service. That conflicted with previous official insistence that he asked to retire early on personal grounds.

Mr Lam agreed yesterday that he had manoeuvred Mr Leung into early retirement and apologised to the Legis-

lative Council select committee investigating the Leung affair and to the press for possibly misleading them with what he termed his previous "technical" answers.

Responding to Mr Leung's claims that he had never done anything wrong and had received favourable annual performance and integrity reports as late as May, only two months before his sudden retirement, Mr Lam disclosed details of a confidential investigation of Mr Leung in 1995 by the Independent Commission Against Corruption. Although he said there was no evidence of crime, Mr Lam accused Mr Leung of having been evasive about his property and investment interests, some of them in China, rus-

ing into tens of thousands of pounds. He also mentioned his failure over five years to repay a £150,000 government housing loan made in 1989 to buy a house in Canada. Mr Leung allegedly sold the house in 1991 without telling his superiors.

Those evasions, Mr Lam said, "caused us to lose confidence in his integrity and his ability to lead a disciplined service". That, he said in evidence, was why he told Mr Leung that he could either retire voluntarily or face compulsory retirement. Mr Lam also said that Mr Leung had "failed" the police integrity vetting.

However, Mr Lam refused to give details of the police vetting because it might reveal the identities of informants. When asked about possible M15, M16, police, or foreign reports that might pertain to allegations that Mr Leung had been involved in spying or informing for China, Mr Lam replied: "I can only speak about information I have come into contact with."

Security reports, if any, were "confidential". He said that the Immigration Service "has not been compromised". That is a matter of central importance to the Government, including the Governor, which has assured foreign governments the over the past year that Hong Kong identity documents are reliable, which means that Hong Kong citizens wishing to travel or live abroad using such documents should be welcomed.

Mr Lam said that allegations about Mr Leung's loyalty were not relevant to his integrity report on Mr Leung, agreed by the highest officials in Hong Kong, including Chris Patten, the Governor, which recommended that Mr Leung should leave the service promptly on full pension.

After the hearing, Mr Leung said that he was grateful to the Government for dismissing allegations that he was a spy, although Mr Lam had said only that that such allegations did not play a part in his decision to offer Mr Leung immediate retirement.



Ice elfin has a bumpy ride

an international following at the 1994 Winter Olympics. She moved in America soon afterwards and became a professional, attracted by the prospect of earning \$2 million (£1.2 million) a year.

Her car accident has led to speculation that the good life has been too much for her. In the past few months her skating has been interrupted by problems associ-

ated with weight-gain. She has had difficulty keeping her balance, and her triple salcos are not as fluent as they once were. In short, the little sequined ice princess is turning into a woman, with a bosom, hips and a very American teenage "attitude". One irony of the scandalised, coast-to-coast American media coverage is that it probably makes Miss Baint a more saleable asset. Her next ice show, if she can ever learn to control those expanding hips, will surely be a sell-out.

Sudan declares jihad to thwart rebel advance

BY SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

SUDANESE rebels hoping to spark a popular uprising against Khartoum's radical Islamic Government yesterday overran garrison towns and claimed to be close to cutting off power to the capital.

In a mood bordering on panic, President al-Bashir declared a jihad (holy war) against the rebels, an alliance of southern Christians seeking autonomy and northern Arabs opposed to Sudan's extremist regime.

He also sent his Vice-President to Cairo in the hope of preventing Egypt from joining what he claimed were Eritrean and Ethiopian-backed invaders who have taken border areas north and east of Khartoum.

Strapped for manpower after 18 years of civil war with the south, General Bashir this week closed Khartoum's university and ordered all students to report to the front line. He also abandoned efforts at mediation with the rebels and said the only solution would be "found by the gun".

The offensive is the first combined operation by rebels from the north and the south since the President took power in 1989. Late last year Sadiq al-Mahdi, Sudan's former Prime Minister and the grandson of the Muslim leader who killed General Charles Gordon, fled to Eritrea where he was able to co-ordinate the rebellion with the southerners.

In Asmara, the Eritrean capital, a spokesman for the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) said the dissidents were within 50 miles of Damazin, the site of a hydroelectricity plant that provides 80 per cent of Khartoum's power.

The rebels also said that the SPLA and the mainly northern Sudan Alliance Forces captured the Government's barracks at Gadameyeb, northeast of Kassala town, and were attacking garrisons nearby. A government official confirmed that they had overrun Geissan and Kurmuk in the south of Blue Nile province and were threatening Mahab, but insisted that the rebels were only junior partners in what amounted to an invasion by Ethiopia and Eritrea. "Scores of mujahidin are

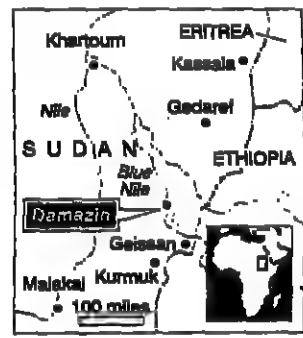
now hurrying towards the theatre of operation to defend the eastern front and teach the aggressors and the traitors a lesson they will never forget. The only thing left now was the power of the gun," he added.

The rebels said their objective was not to capture the capital but to put pressure on the Government and ignite a popular uprising. Their spokesman, Yassir Arman, said the latest rebel advance was a turning point in the war against Khartoum.

"This operation is to enable the mass movement inside Sudan to wage an uprising against the military junta there. By advancing on Damazin we are piling economic and military pressure on the junta," Mr Arman said. □ **Lusaka:** Eight Zambian opposition politicians detained on suspicion of treason last year are suing the state for malicious and wrongful prosecution, their lawyers said yesterday.

The politicians, all members of the United National Independence Party led by Kenneth Kaunda, the former President, are each demanding \$192,000 (£116,000) from the state. The claim follows their acquittal on treason charges last year.

The opposition leaders include Mr Kaunda's deputy, Inyambwe Yara, and Mubabi Lungu, his press aide. The eight were detained last June in connection with a spate of explosions allegedly carried out by a group called the "Black Mamba". The Government said the blasts were intended to deter it from passing controversial laws that banned some candidates, including Mr Kaunda, from contesting elections held last November. (Reuters)



Balloonist's plea to China for air space

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

ON THE second day of his attempt to fly a hot-air balloon around the world, Steve Fossett, the American aviator, was troubled by the contrasting problems of political turbulence and indignation.

Mr Fossett, 52, has yet to gain permission from the Chinese authorities to fly over their territory, and his Chicago-based mission: control was yesterday trying to enlist the assistance of the White House to persuade Peking to give its assent.

For the time being, Mr Fossett, a multimillionaire commodities dealer from Colorado, was noisily chewing anti-acid tablets as his *Solo Spirit* balloon floated westwards over the Atlantic at 18,000ft. His discomfort was caused by the US Army-style MRE rations ("meals ready to eat") whose texture and taste is not dissimilar to cardboard.

Dawn on day two of his trip saw the solo balloonist making good progress, passing Bermuda and floating towards northern Portugal. His planned route then veers

northwards to Denmark, Russia and eventually, all being well, to China.

Solo Spirit is the third balloon this month to be involved in a global circumnavigation attempt. One of the other, unsuccessful balloons, the *Virgin Global Challenger*, received an initially dusky reception from the Algerian authorities when it sought permission for an emergency landing in the troubled north African country. The matter was resolved only after diplomatic efforts were made by the royal court of Morocco.

Indignation and international border matters aside, Mr Fossett was said to be in buoyant spirits yesterday. On Tuesday night his craft was tailed by a light aircraft from one of the main American television networks, which conducted a satellite-assisted interview with the balloonist. As *Solo Spirit* scudded high over the waves at 69 mph, a wind-blown Mr Fossett pronounced himself to be "pretty happy-out here".

Security reports, if any, were "confidential". He said that the Immigration Service "has not been compromised". That is a matter of central importance to the Government, including the Governor, which has assured foreign governments the over the past year that Hong Kong identity documents are reliable, which means that Hong Kong citizens wishing to travel or live abroad using such documents should be welcomed.

Mr Lam said that allegations about Mr Leung's loyalty were not relevant to his integrity report on Mr Leung, agreed by the highest officials in Hong Kong, including Chris Patten, the Governor, which recommended that Mr Leung should leave the service promptly on full pension.

After the hearing, Mr Leung said that he was grateful to the Government for dismissing allegations that he was a spy, although Mr Lam had said only that that such allegations did not play a part in his decision to offer Mr Leung immediate retirement.

Oksana Baiul, 19, the former Olympic gold medalist ice skater who "captured the hearts" of the world, now finds herself cast as an anti-hero after being arrested in Bloomfield, Connecticut, for alleged drink-driving in her green Mercedes (Quentin Letts writes). She had an accident on Sunday, needed 12 stitches in her head, and was told to appear in court on January 27.

Miss Baiul is the Ukrainian wife whose sad personal life, combined with an elfin grace on the ice, ensured her

THE SUNDAY TIMES



MENINGITIS

The mystery disease that strikes fast and can kill in hours.
A special report in The Sunday Times Magazine this weekend

THE SUNDAY TIMES / THE SUNDAY PAPERS

MJN

The Best Choice
For The Latest
Technology
Service & Value



MJN Multimedia MT

- Intel 166MHz Pentium processor with MMX™ Technology (P166MX model) or Intel 133MHz Pentium processor (P133 model)
- 32Mb EDO RAM. (Remember a 32Mb P166+ system yields far better performance than a 16Mb P200 system. 16Mb RAM on P133 model)
- 33.6 V34 V.90 internal modem. 28.8 on P133 model
- 2.1Gb hard disk. 1Gb on P133 model
- 8 speed CD-ROM drive
- 15" or 17" SVGA 0.28dp screen
- 256K pipeline burst cache
- 64-bit integrated graphics (use upto 2Mb system RAM)
- 16-bit stereo sound
- PC joystick
- Twin stereo speaker system
- 7 bay midi tower case
- Standard ports including PS/2 mouse, 2 fast serial, parallel and joystick
- 3.5" floppy drive, PS/2 mouse and 105 keyboard.

MJN high performance systems based on IBM P166+ processors and new systems based on Intel Pentium™ processors with

MMX™ Technology

MJN high performance systems feature the latest Intel 166MHz Pentium™ processors with MMX™ technology and high speed IBM P166+ processors to provide you with the ultimate performance. These systems include 32Mb EDO RAM, fast 33.6 modems, large 15" or 17" screens, fast 2.1Gb hard disks and full-featured 8 speed multimedia. We also offer a new P133 system for the budget conscious.

P133 15" Model • 16Mb RAM • 15" HD • 15" Screen • 33.6 Modem	£1162.08 Inc. VAT	£989 +VAT
P166+ 15" Model • 32Mb RAM • 2.1Gb HD • 15" Screen • 33.6 Modem	£1279.58 Inc. VAT	£1089 +VAT
P166MX 15" Model • 32Mb RAM • 2.1Gb HD • 15" Screen • 33.6 Modem	£1397.08 Inc. VAT	£1189 +VAT
P166+ 17" Model • 32Mb RAM • 2.1Gb HD • 17" Screen • 33.6 Modem	£1479.33 Inc. VAT	£1259 +VAT

MJN Offers End 24th January

These MJN systems come with a range of software including our 10 leading CD multimedia titles



Software

- Microsoft Windows 95
- Lotus SmartSuite 95, Pressworks, Designworks, Homeworks pro-10000
- Quicken v5 multimedia CD finance pack
- Massive software bundle including 10 leading CD Titles: Intopedia UK encyclopedia, BodyWorks v5, Comptons 1997 Word Atlas, Multimedia Bookshelf, KeyCAD Pro, Project Manager Pro, Read, Write & Type, Labels Unlimited, Comptons 1997 Encyclopedia and Games & Gadgets.
- P166MX system also includes multimedia titles designed for MMX™ Technology: The Ultimate Human Body 3, Space Station Simulation, 3D Animation and Timescales of Technology.

Printer Option

- Leamon 1020 colour inkjet printer £275.08 (£349+VAT)

Award Winning Multimedia



MJN 01 282 777 555

Telephone sales lines are open Monday - Friday 9.00am - 7.00pm, Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm

MJN Technology Limited, Grenville House, Blackburn Rd, Simonstone, Burnley, Lancs, BB12 7GT. Tel: 01282 777 555. Fax: 01282 77 08 44. All prices include delivery £25.00 + VAT £2.35. Software applications are provided on CD or pre-installed on-line documentation. Screen shots are for illustrative purposes only. Prices are subject to change without notice. Products sold subject to our conditions of sale copies of which are available on request. The Intel logo and Pentium are registered trademarks and MMX is a trademark of Intel Corporation. ©1996

In the final part of her unexpurgated diary, Anne Frank reveals a talent for satire

Life with the unbearable Mr Dussel

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1942
Mr Dussel has arrived. Everything went smoothly. Miep told him to be at a certain place in front of the post office at 11am, when a man would meet him, and he was at the appointed place at the appointed time.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1942
The first day Mr Dussel was here, he asked me all sorts of questions — for example, how we've arranged to use the bathroom and when we're allowed to go to the lavatory. You may laugh, but these things aren't so easy in a hiding place. I was surprised to see how slow he is to catch on. He asks everything twice and still can't remember what you've told him. Maybe he's just confused by the sudden change and he'll get over it.

Mr Dussel has told us much about the outside world we've missed for so long. He had sad news. Countless friends and acquaintances have been taken off to a dreadful fate. Night after night, green and grey military vehicles cruise the streets. The men knock on every door, asking whether any Jews live there. If so, the whole family is taken away.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1942
Mr Dussel has turned out to be an old-fashioned disciplinarian and preacher of unbearably long sermons on manners. Since I have the



Alfred Dussel, left, was "an old-fashioned disciplinarian and preacher of unbearably long sermons on manners" according to Anne Frank. Anne, above, at her school desk, displays her love for writing



singular pleasure (!) of sharing my far-too-narrow room with His Excellency, and since I'm generally considered to be the worst behaved of the three young people, it's all I can do to avoid having the same old scoldings and admonitions re-

peatedly flung at my head and to pretend not to hear. Really, it's not easy being the badly brought-up centre of attention of a family of nit-pickers.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1942

Dussel has opened his dental practice. Mrs van D., the first victim, sat down on a chair in the middle of the room. Dussel, unpacking his case with an air of importance, asked for some eau de Cologne, which could be used as a disinfectant, and

Vaseline, which would have to do for wax. He looked in Mrs van D.'s mouth and found two teeth that made her wince with pain and utter incoherent cries every time he touched them. After a lengthy examination, Dussel began to scrape out a cavity. But Mrs van D. had no intention of letting him. She flailed her arms and legs until Dussel finally let go of his probe and ... it remained stuck in Mrs van D.'s tooth. That really did it! Mrs van D. lashed out wildly in all directions, cried (as much as you can with an instrument like that in your mouth), tried to remove it but only managed to push it in even farther. Mr Dussel calmly observed the scene, his hands on his hips, while the rest of the audience roared with laughter. One thing is certain: it'll be a while before Mrs van D. makes another dental appointment!

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1943
Dussel is terribly lax when it comes to obeying the rules of the house. Not only does he write letters to his Charlotte, he's also carrying on a chatty correspondence with various other people. Father has forbidden him to keep up the practice but I think it won't be long before he starts up again.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1943
Yesterday was Dussel's birthday. At first he acted as if he didn't want to celebrate it, but when Miep arrived with a large shopping bag overflowing with gifts, he was as excited as a little child. His darling "Lotje" has sent him eggs, butter, biscuits, lemonade, bread, cognac, spice cake, flowers, oranges, chocolate, books and writing paper. He piled his presents on a table and displayed them for no fewer than three days, the ridiculous old fool! You mustn't get the idea that he's starving. We found bread, cheese, jam and eggs in his cupboard.

It's absolutely disgraceful that Dussel, whom we've treated with such kindness and whom we took in to save from destruction, should stuff himself behind our backs and not give us anything. After all, we've shared all we had with him!

Dussel is slipping lower and lower in my estimation, and he's already below zero. Whatever he says about politics, history, geography or anything else is so ridiculous that I hardly dare repeat it. Hitler will fade from history; the harbour in Rotterdam is bigger than the one in Haaburg; the English are idiots for not taking the opportunity to bomb Italy to smithereens etc. etc.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1943
Yesterday was my unlucky

day. I pricked my right thumb with the blunt end of a big needle. As a result, Margot had to peel potatoes for me (take the good with the bad), and writing was awkward. Then I bumped into the cupboard door so hard it nearly knocked me over, and was scolded for making such a racket. They wouldn't let me run water to bathe my forehead, so now I'm walking around with a giant lump over my right eye. To make matters worse, the little toe on

On Saturday there was a big drama, the like of which has never been seen here before. Dussel complained to Mother that he was being treated like a leper, that no one was friendly to him and that, after all, he hadn't done anything to deserve it. This was followed by a lot of sweet talk, which luckily Mother didn't fall for this time. She told him we were disappointed in him and that on more than one occasion he'd been a source of great annoyance.

than once by trying to pass on the news he's just heard, since the message invariably gets garbled in transmission. Furthermore, he answers every reproach or accusation with a load of fine promises which he never manages to keep.

Dussel now sits on the "bog" to borrow the expression, every day at 12.30 on the dot. This afternoon I boldly took a piece of paper and wrote: "Mr Dussel's Toilet Timetable. Mornings from 7.15 to 7.30 am. Afternoons after 1pm. Otherwise, only as needed!" I tacked this to the green lavatory door while he was still inside. I might have added "Transgressors will be subject to confinement" because our lavatory can't be locked from both the inside and the outside.

Mr van Daan's latest job. After a Bible lesson from Adam and Eve, a 13-year-old boy asked his father: "Tell me, Father, how did I get born?"

"Well," the father replied, "the stork plucked you out of the ocean, set you down in Mother's bed and bit her in the leg, hard. It bled so much that she had to stay in bed for a week. Not fully satisfied the boy went to his mother. 'Tell me, Mother,' he asked, 'how did you get born?' and how did I get born?"

His mother told him the very same story. Finally, hoping to hear the fine points, he went to his grandfather.

"Tell me, Grandfather," he said, "how did you get born and how did your daughter get born?" And for the third time he was told exactly the same story. That night he wrote in his diary: "After careful inquiry, I must conclude that there has been no sexual intercourse in our family for the last three generations!"

● Taken from *The Diary of a Young Girl: The Definitive Edition*, edited by Otto H. Frank and Mirjam Pressler, to be published by Viking on February 6, price £16.95. The Anne Frank Fonds, Basel, Switzerland 1991. English translation by Susan Massotty. Double day 1995. The book may be ordered from The Times Bookshop for the special price of £14.95 (savings on the publisher's price of £16) by calling 0900 134 459.

● The award-winning film, *Anne Frank Remembered* (VCI) will be released on video on February 3, price £12.99.



Miep Gies and Bep Voskuijl, who helped the Frank family

my right foot got stuck in the vacuum cleaner. It bled and hurt, but my other ailments were already causing me so much trouble that I let this one slide, which was stupid of me, because now I'm walking around with an infected toe. What with the ointments, the gauze and the tape, I can't get my heavenly new shoe on any foot.

Dussel has put us in danger for the umpteenth time. He actually had Miep bring him a book, an anti-Mussolini tirade, which has been banned. On the way here she was knocked down by an SS motorcycle. She lost her head and shouted "You brutes!" I don't dare think what would have happened if she'd been taken to headquarters.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1943

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1943
Dussel is in turmoil. Yesterday was November 16, the first anniversary of his living in the annex. Mother received a plant in honour of the occasion, but Mrs van Daan, who had alluded to the date for weeks, received nothing. Instead of making use of the opportunity to thank us — for the first time — for unselfishly taking him in, he didn't utter a word. And on the morning of the 16th, when I asked him whether I should offer him my congratulations or my condolences, he replied that either would do.

I can say without exaggeration that Dussel has definitely got a screw loose. We often laugh to ourselves because he has no memory, no fixed opinions and no common sense. He's amused us more

What's stopping you

Only PPP healthcare gives you reassurance and support at the right price — like instant access to hospital treatment and a wide range of our patient benefits.

from enjoying the personal

There is no annual limit on hospital stays and all your bills will be settled directly with the hospital. But we don't just help you when you're ill. There's a 24-hour Health Information Line and a Personal Advisory Team to answer your queries too.

healthcare you deserve?

With our help you can be sure you'll choose the cover that suits you best. And when you join, your first month's cover is free — our way of welcoming you to PPP healthcare.

It can't be the cost.

So call PPP healthcare today for your instant quotation. And find out how you can afford the personal healthcare you deserve. Remember, your first month's cover is free.

0800 33 55 55

(8am - 8pm weekdays, 9am - 1pm Saturdays) quote reference 5050

PPP healthcare, FREEPOST, PPP HOUSE, UPPERTON ROAD, EASTBOURNE, EAST SUSSEX BN21 1SR.

Web site: www.ppphealthcare.co.uk

Your 1-800 phone conversation may be recorded for research purposes

I would like to discover how affordable the support of PPP healthcare can be. Please send me my no-obligation quotation.

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms Name _____ Ref: 5050

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel. No. (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Date of birth _____ (Important, we cannot give you a quote without this date)

Name of other adult to be included _____ Date of birth _____

Number of children under 21 to be included _____

If you have a current healthcare policy, please give your renewal date _____

I PREFER NOT TO RECEIVE PROMOTIONAL MAILINGS FROM OTHER COMPANIES ☐



there to support you



0800 600 800



Dr Thomas Stuttford on changing attitudes in the workplace, the symptoms and effects of too much stress and how to avoid it, plus balancing the demands of a career with a successful home life

Stress and the new wage slaves

Speeches at retirement parties 30 years ago had a fixed formula. The retiring man — it was usually a man — explained how he had joined the firm at the age of 14 or after university. He told a few anecdotes, reminisced about the friendships he had made over 40 years, and ended by saying that if he had his life again he would have done exactly the same job, and never regretted joining the firm of his choice, which had looked after him so well.

The workforce until the 1980s had pride in their skills, loyalty to their firm, which was reciprocated, and they enjoyed going to work. The comforting sense that by being part of an organisation all would be well, but that if there was any trouble the management's first consideration would be their welfare, has now gone. In the past, it was equally reassuring to the worker's doctor to know that a telephone call to the personnel manager would settle most problems when the care of the patient's, or his family's health, was dependent on the co-operation of the employer.

Personnel work is now known as the management of human resources, a term which relegates people to the level of just another resource, of little more importance than the cardboard ordered for packaging. Customers first, staff second and profit third is a discipline that no longer applies; the objective now is to satisfy the shareholders and the standard of service to the customers is secondary to its likely effect on profit.

The feeling that workers have that their skills are no longer respected, and may not be in any case needed for much longer, has had the effect of producing stress at every level of an organisation. In the past there was stress for the high fliers who were battling it out for the top jobs, but others could expect, provided they continued to do a competent job, to remain where they were until they retired. There is a table to be found in most

textbooks of occupational health, which evaluates the intensity of the stress engendered by 43 common life events. Being fired ranks only three places below the death of a spouse, divorce, being sent to jail, or the death of a close member of the family. No one working in the present climate can be certain that they will have any work to go to next month or next year. People are aware that decisions, which may lead to their dismissal, will probably be taken hundreds of miles away by a management they have never met.

Once they are over 45 to 50 the chances of a redundant worker finding as good a post as remote, and they will have to reconcile themselves to longer hours, and a falling standard of living as they grow older. The insecurity in the job market has produced a level of stress at work such as hasn't been witnessed for 70 years.

Employees have responded by working longer and longer days. Office workers are the

new 20th-century wage slaves and work hours that produced riotous strikes in the dark satanic mill towns 50 years ago. The length of the working day has a potential to ruin health, as well as social and marital life. That their wage is very high doesn't reduce stress. One City worker, twitzy and with enough of the signs of stress to fill a textbook, told me that he had had a seven-figure bonus. The bonus thrilled the financier because it meant he could retire at 45 rather than at 50. The man had no loyalty to his firm, nor it to him, and he had no enthusiasm for his work, which he only thought of as a means by which he might be able to enjoy a leisurely retirement.

His plans failed to take account of one factor: working 16 hours a day, bent over a computer, and making, or losing, money provides little satisfaction but maximum stress. My City friend may never live to relish the retirement for which he is sacrificing his health and endangering his family life.

Heart pain is not always in the chest

HIGH blood pressure, coronary heart disease, strokes and other manifestations of cardiovascular disease are consequences of a life of stress and are problems which busy people worry about at three o'clock in the morning.

The cardiovascular symptoms of stress range from a pounding heart when the worker is worried through to simple irregularities such as extrasystoles, which are occasional extra-powerful beats followed by a compensatory pause, to serious arrhythmias when the heart rate and rhythm is grossly disorganised, and occasionally may precede sudden death.

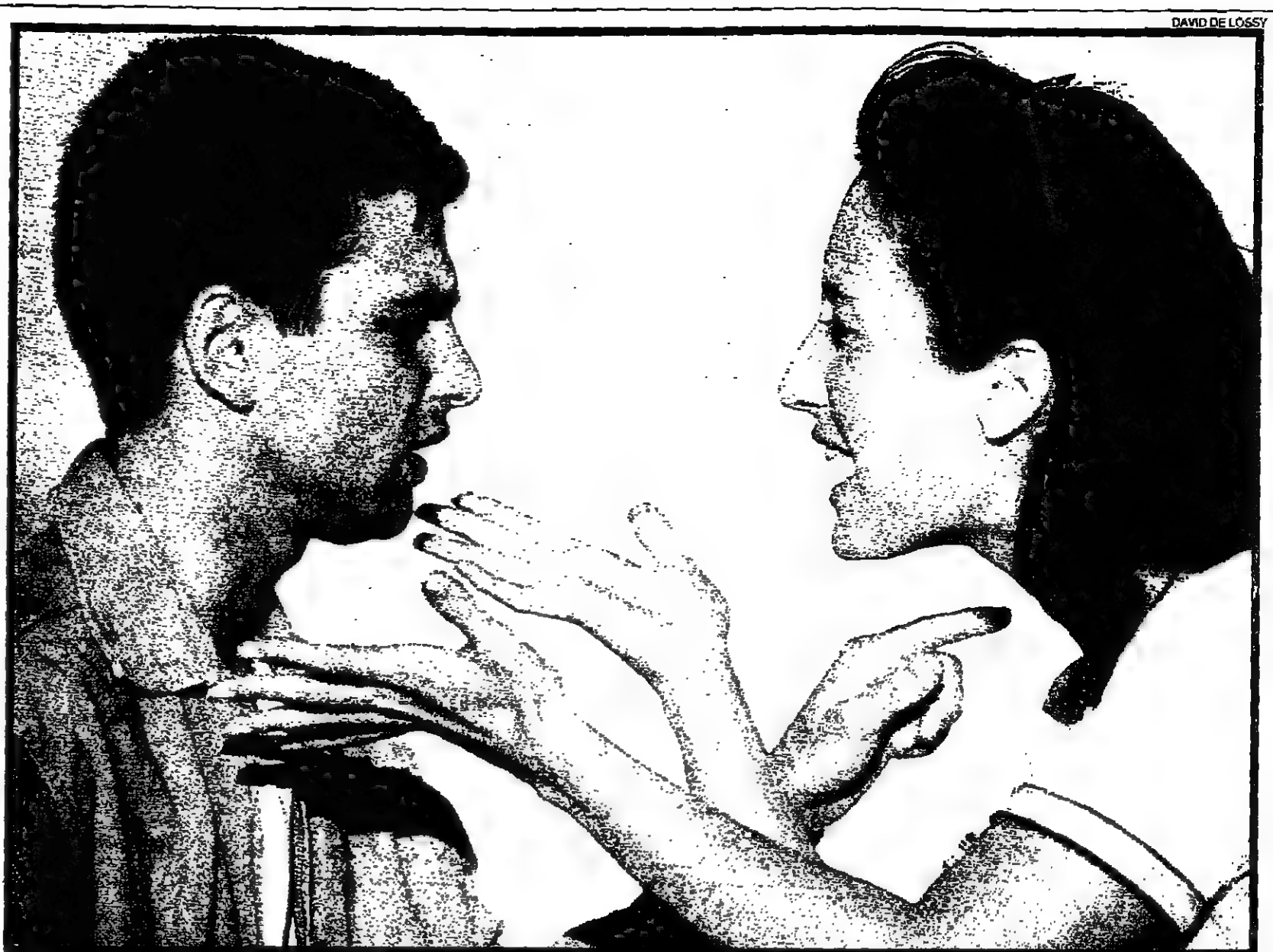
One reassuring thought is that most chest pain, even in the stressed patient, doesn't come from the heart, even though it always needs careful investigation. In particular, people have to be aware that heart pain isn't always felt in the chest but may be experienced in the neck, down the arms, just below the shoulders, in the thumb and, rather surprisingly, in the face, particularly around the teeth or tip of the nose. Unexplained indigestion should also excite interest.

Chest pain can also be caused when



Helping hand: stress causes sickness

tension in the muscles of the back causes the spine to be held so rigidly that any vulnerable nerve roots supplying the chest wall are irritated. Hyperventilation, overbreathing when tense, is associated with chest pain together with tingling in the fingers. Type A people, those who are competitive, aggressive, obsessively ambitious and intolerant, are particularly associated with heart disease. Their character may be difficult to change, although beta-blockers can help, but they would be well advised to eliminate the risk factors which can be dealt with.



By the time success has been achieved by many high-flyers, it is too late to redress the balance: the discord induced by giving priority to work will have taken its toll

ONE of the most difficult aspects of modern life is trying to balance the demands of work with a successful home life. When talking to older patients, many say that if they had their time again they would have paid more regard to their family, and less to their work. By the time success has been achieved it is too late to redress the balance: by then the discord induced by giving priority to work will have taken

Which comes first — work or family?

its toll. Business success is about the management of time. Likewise stress at home can be reduced if a clear division is made between time when the family has priority, and that when the job has.

In the mornings before going to the office, the worker ideally should have their mind free of all domestic duties.

They will then be mentally planning their day, thinking of the interviews and tasks ahead. Taking children to school, remembering the groceries or the outstanding tax bills, and thinking of the other household tasks cuts across thoughts of work. However, on returning home busy executives should have

20 minutes to themselves to unwind and thereafter the evening must belong to the family, and work must be forgotten. Weekends and holidays, too, are the family's and should be sacrosanct. Children are easily neglected but when it is impossible to attend school or other functions, regrets must be expressed to the child. It should never be assumed that children understand the pressures of the adult world.

Telltale signs of distress

A SURVEY conducted a few years ago showed that more than 65 per cent of people who reach the top worked overtime, nearly 50 per cent do office work at weekends — and weekend work doesn't include background reading.

Despite the hours they work, only 12 per cent of chief executives who were interviewed said that they had ever considered how the stress in their lives might be eased, and few took any interest in their long-term health.

Some stress and competition is needed to extend the abilities and performance of a worker. Without a challenge, anyone is likely to lapse into miserable inertia, but too much of a challenge and they will start to develop physical and mental symptoms.

The signs and symptoms of stress are well known — irritability, a twitchy edginess, sleeplessness, loss of libido, impotence, sweating palms, hyperventilation and a thundering heart.

Often it is the spouse who first complains to the doctor of stress in the household. Not unnaturally, people expect their partners to be relaxed, chatty, sexually exciting, and therefore notice once a sometime jolly companion has become reserved, sweaty, grumpy, silent and generally lacklustre.

One of the most revealing questions is to ask someone who could be overstressed about their experiences when driving. The question should be so designed that it doesn't cause offence but does reveal the number of near-accidents they have had recently and

whether the number is increasing. If it is going up it doesn't necessarily mean that the patient would have been the prime cause of the accident, but it does imply that they are agitated and that their mind was on other things.

It is not only the intellect and the heart that is affected by stress; the gut, too, can reflect the tension someone is under.

Although there is a proven association between peptic ulceration and infection with helicobacter pylori, there is also no doubt that someone who, for whatever reason, has indigestion will find that it is much worse when they are overwrought.

The lower gut is also a good barometer of peace of mind. The irritable bowel syndrome of abdominal pain, either constipation or diarrhoea, and excess wind and bloating is a frequent symptom of stress, and is made worse when the patient is under pressure.

Even without developing the full syndrome, gut problems in those who are harried are common and may be manifested by no more than an over-sensitive gastro-cholic reflex with intestinal hurry, the technical way of describing the quick dash to the lavatory which the over-stressed find is necessary after they have eaten any food or had a cup of strong black coffee.

People with a sensitive gut also have a tendency to need to visit the loo several times early in the day, before the gut settles as the morning wears on.



Paper chase: too much of a challenge causes irritability

Checklist for a healthy lifestyle

A FEW simple measures will improve the general physique of the overworked, overtired person torn between work and a happy family life. Not all the recommendations can be fulfilled, but the more that are, the better the lifestyle and the longer the life expectancy.

People in busy jobs should aim for six to eight hours' sleep a night, and allow time when getting up to have breakfast. Breakfast should include a polysaturated, such as porridge, and some protein. Arrange to arrive at the office early and, untrammelled by any domestic worries, sort out the day's programme before the first appointment. Nothing is more stress-making than having to start a day's work behind schedule.

A light lunch, with little or no alcohol if there has to be a return to work, should be taken at midday. If possible leave work so as to be back home in time to see the children before they go to bed, but have some time alone before meeting the family. Keep weight down and in particular avoid too much fat. Dieting, however important, must never become a fetish. Remember the slogan HALT — hungry, angry, lonely and tired — these are the occasions when there is a temptation to drink too much. Take, if the joints allow it, 20 to 30 minutes brisk, but not violent, exercise daily. Don't smoke cigarettes and don't have more than four cups of coffee a day.

Tomorrow

How to survive in the graduate jobs market. Education, PAGES 36, 37

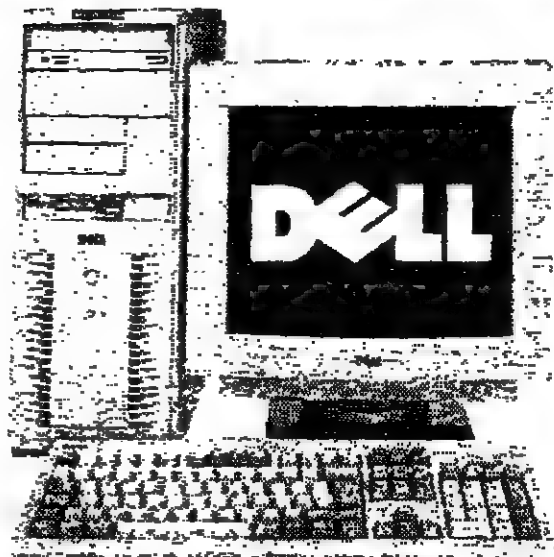
New Year. New Technology. Old price.



Dell have kicked off the new year with an outstanding offer. The Dell Dimension™ XPS M166s and its Intel 166MHz Pentium® Processor with MMX™ technology is now available for only £1,299 (£1,555.70 inc delivery & VAT). And, for limited period only, we'll give you an extra 16Mb SDRAM for free. So you get the most advanced hardware with no advance in price. And because it comes with new MMX technology, it can run between 10% and 20% faster under today's normal business applications. Call the world's largest direct PC manufacturer™ today on 01344 724618 and get this year's technology at last year's prices.

- DELL DIMENSION XPS M166s BONUS BUNDLE**
- INTEL® 166MHz PENTIUM® PROCESSOR WITH MMX TECHNOLOGY
 - 16MB SDRAM + EXTRA 16MB SDRAM FREE
 - 512KB PIPELINE BURST CACHE
 - 2GB EIDE HARD DRIVE
 - STB POWERGRAPH 64 3D PCI GRAPHICS CARD: 2MB VIDEO MEMORY
 - 15" COLOUR SVGA MONITOR (13.75" VIEWABLE AREA)
 - EIGHT SPEED CD-ROM DRIVE
 - MID-SIZED TOWER CHASSIS
 - INTEGRATED 16-BIT SOUND AND ACS90 SPEAKERS
 - MICROSOFT® WINDOWS 95 & MS OFFICE PROFESSIONAL 95

£1,299 (£1,555.70)
inc. delivery & VAT



FREE 16MB SDRAM
WORTH £120
LIMITED PERIOD ONLY



TALK DIRECT TO THE NUMBER ONE.
01344 724618
Between 8am and 8pm weekdays, 10am to 4pm Sat.

*Free offer available only on Dell Dimension XPS M166s Bonus Bundle at time of purchase. **Source: IDC

Dell and the Dell logo are registered trademarks and Dell Dimension is a trademark of Dell Computer Corporation. Intel, Intel Inside, Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. Microsoft, Windows, Office Professional 95 and the Windows logo are registered trademarks of the Microsoft Corporation. Delivery at £25 (incl. VAT) per system. Finance is available subject to status. Full details available on request. Prices correct at date of publication. The photographed product may not always match the specifications in this advert. Price quoted refers to configuration described only. The prices listed reflect the information available at the time of going to press. Prices change without notice. All prices and specifications are subject to change without prior notice at Dell Computer Corporation Ltd, Midway House, Weymouth Road, Brixton, Berkshire RG1 1BD. Offer available for a limited period only.

A Bill that subverts the rule of law

Our homes should still be our castles, says Robert Alexander

We claim proudly as a country to cherish our freedoms, so much so that it is said that we have no need of a written constitution. But we are in truth alert enough to guard our liberties? One proposal in the Police Bill suggests that we are not. For no freedom can be more fundamental than that summed up in the phrase "an Englishman's home is his castle". For centuries this has been deeply rooted in our law. So much so that even in the autocratic, pre-democratic days of George III, the courts held that the executive had no power to authorise entry on private property. Only an independent judge could authorise a search warrant.

This rock of our constitution is being swept aside in the Police Bill. The House of Lords has so far been feeble in its protest. But for the concern of Lord Browne-Wilkinson, one of our most senior law lords, the change might well have gone through practically on the nod. He has done the notable service of alerting us all to its dangers. The Liberal Democrats have taken up the cudgels, but the Labour Party, once again hiding behind the Government's skirts on law and order issues, supports the change.

What are the dangers of Section 91 of the Police Bill? The powers it confers are very wide indeed. It entitles the police to "bug and burglar" private property. They would be able to introduce electronic surveillance and to seize documents. Nor are these powers concerned only with those suspected of crime. They extend to innocent third parties: to investigative journalists or priests or in defiance of legal professional privilege, to lawyers. Such actions may be taken on the broad and subjective ground that they are "likely to be of substantial value in the prevention or detection of serious crime".

These powers are clearly well intentioned. They are potentially vital in the fight against serious crime, such as fraud, money-laundering or drug-dealing. To catch the master criminal is notoriously difficult. But the more sweeping powers, the more care and supervision they require. The need for efficient policing has to be balanced against respect for individual liberties. No such protection is provided. For the judges are given no part to play. Instead the senior officer of the police force seeking to take advantage of these powers is to decide whether to authorise their use. The police are to be judge in their own cause: an impossible task, even for the most conscientious senior officers.

Why are the judges to be excluded? Because, it is said, it is wrong to involve them in law enforcement activities. This is nonsense. Judges have long been involved in determining whether ordinary search warrants should be issued. They decide whether informers should be granted immunity. They decide on the admissibility of evidence. In other countries across the world, it is the

judges, and only the judges who authorise activity of this kind. It is a fundamental principle of both the common and civil law as demonstrated in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the other countries of Europe. Indeed, to deny judicial involvement is likely to be held to be yet one more breach by this country of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The police operate under high pressure. Inevitably, in deciding whether to grant authorisation, a police officer will focus on the needs of efficient policing. Only someone independent can balance these needs against individual liberties. As the United States Supreme Court has put it, the primary reason for the judicial warrant is "to interpose a 'neutral and detached magistrate' between the citizen and the officer engaged in the often competitive enterprise of ferreting out crime".

The Government mounts two other arguments which can be given short shrift. It says that police officers will exercise their powers to invade liberties of third parties sparingly. But liberties are founded on law, not on the grace and favour of the police. They are the example of the manner of the modern White House. I was having dinner in a downtown restaurant in a group that included Chris Ruddy, the American investigative reporter who has raised most of the unanswered questions about the death of Vincent Foster, which is still under official investigation. 3½ years after Foster died. At a neighbouring table was young George Stephanopoulos, then still working for the President. Chris Ruddy walked across and introduced himself. "You're the fellow from Pittsburgh," was the courteous reply.

Over the years I have reported some of the alleged Clinton scandals. So far none of those I have reported has been disproved. I am a joint editor of the Washington investment newsletter *Strategic Investment*, which has followed the story and which commissioned the examination by three handwriting experts which found that the Foster "suicide" note was a clumsy forgery. The British reporter who has done the most thorough investigative work is Ambrose Evans-Pritchard of *The Sunday Telegraph*. He has been attacked more harshly than the rest of us; where I have been able to assess it, I have found his work professional, accurate and thorough. He has also shown great courage.

Last autumn the White House sent a number of friendly journalists a 331-page report on the press coverage of the scandal. I find myself, flatteringly, on the enemy list of the Clinton White House. I remember, after Watergate, how anxious Washington journalists were to show that the Nixon White House had put them on a similar enemies' list. Even my old colleague Henry Brandon was secretly rather flattered that the White House had bugged his phone, though he felt his old friend Henry Kissinger had been a trifle disloyal in agreeing to it.

The new White House document argues that stories originate with right-wing sources in America, are picked up by the British press and then get back into the American mainstream press. They call this the "blowback" process. The accuracy of their analysis can be judged from one of their comments on a column I wrote 2½ years ago.

Lord Alexander is chairman of Justice, and a former chairman of the Bar Council.



"NETANYA WHO?"

On Clinton's enemy list

The White House thinks me a 'scumbag', but the President hasn't cleared himself

Last September, when I was attending a conference in Washington, I witnessed an example of the manner of the modern White House. I was having dinner in a downtown restaurant in a group that included Chris Ruddy, the American investigative reporter who has raised most of the unanswered questions about the death of Vincent Foster, which is still under official investigation. 3½ years after Foster died. At a neighbouring table was young George Stephanopoulos, then still working for the President. Chris Ruddy walked across and introduced himself. "You're the fellow from Pittsburgh," was the courteous reply.

Over the years I have reported some of the alleged Clinton scandals. So far none of those I have reported has been disproved. I am a joint editor of the Washington investment newsletter *Strategic Investment*, which has followed the story and which commissioned the examination by three handwriting experts which found that the Foster "suicide" note was a clumsy forgery. The British reporter who has done the most thorough investigative work is Ambrose Evans-Pritchard of *The Sunday Telegraph*. He has been attacked more harshly than the rest of us; where I have been able to assess it, I have found his work professional, accurate and thorough. He has also shown great courage.

Last autumn the White House sent a number of friendly journalists a 331-page report on the press coverage of the scandal. I find myself, flatteringly, on the enemy list of the Clinton White House. I remember, after Watergate, how anxious Washington journalists were to show that the Nixon White House had put them on a similar enemies' list. Even my old colleague Henry Brandon was secretly rather flattered that the White House had bugged his phone, though he felt his old friend Henry Kissinger had been a trifle disloyal in agreeing to it.

The new White House document argues that stories originate with right-wing sources in America, are picked up by the British press and then get back into the American mainstream press. They call this the "blowback" process. The accuracy of their analysis can be judged from one of their comments on a column I wrote 2½ years ago.

More British tabloids: William Rees-Mogg of *The Times* of London repeated the

Economist's charges and stated, "Dan Lasater was a major contributor to Clinton election funds. Lasater, Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Roger Clinton, Vincent Foster and Patsy Thomason were all in the same Little Rock network, and undoubtedly worked together to advance their interests... Patsy Thomason still works at the White House, the link between Lasater and Clinton remains in place."

Apart from the belief that *The Times* is a "British tabloid" there is something odd about this reference. None of the statements I made in May 1994 was questioned then, or

column written by Mike Royko, in which I am attacked as "Rupert Murdoch's scumbag connection". Mike Royko's polemic style can be illustrated from this passage: "So it is always jarring to look at the British press and find that their journalists seem to be a bunch of scumbags. It wasn't very suave of me to put it this way, but I can't resist calling a scumbag a scumbag. Even if he takes high tea and has a hyphenated name."

I assume that Mike Royko thinks that high tea is a particularly grand English meal. Perhaps he supposes that I drop in to take high tea with the Queen in Buckingham Palace on the strength of my hyphenated name. Yet I should not complain. If he does not know what high tea is, I do not really

know what a "scumbag" is; it sounds unpleasantly clinical. I noted that Annabel Heseltine hesitated to apply it even to Max Clifford, so it must be pretty bad.

Again the strange thing about Mike Royko's column is that he did not deny any of the statements I had made, he simply objected to my making them. Indeed he took a lordly "What's new?" attitude to Arkansas drugs and corruption. "As for Arkansas being corrupt — you can say the same about New York, Texas, Illinois and most other big American states. Arkansas drug biggest? They'd be swallowed up on Chicago's West Side, LA's Watts or New York's Bronx."

Why should the White House want to put out a defence which admits by implication that Arkansas is corrupt, but argues that the big cities in the big states are even more corrupt? Such a defence merely confirms what I wrote.

Like most observers, I have found it hard to keep track of the whole network of scandals alleged against President Clinton and his associates. So far, none of them has been finally eliminated from inquiries. From the period when Clinton was Governor

of Arkansas, they include: Mesa airport and massive cocaine imports; frequent sex assignments arranged by state troopers, the Whitewater and Castle Grande property speculations and Savings and Loans; Hillary's questionable commodity profit the Arkansas Development Finance Agency, sweetheart loans and political donations; Lasater's cocaine offence and money laundering; the environmental damage of Don Tyson's "lakes of chicken shir".

Since he became President, they have also included Foster's death and the botched investigation; the unsolved murder of Jerry Parks; the Travelgate affair; the thousand FBI files on Republicans; the Asian campaign funds.

At present the civil case brought by Paula Jones, which is now before the Supreme Court, may be the most embarrassing problem for the President, but it is not one of the more important allegations of public wrongdoing. In most of the other cases, there are issues of obstruction of justice, corruption, criminal association, unlawful campaign funds, which go to the heart of the President's public responsibility. That he has been a compulsive womaniser is a secondary matter, though it is established by a crowd of witnesses. If one simply returns to the public record and looks at the list of Clinton associates who have already been convicted, or are under current investigation, it becomes clear how wide the network has been. To date, nine Clinton associates have been convicted of felonies; five have been convicted of misdemeanours; three have died in questionable circumstances, one of them while under investigation; 19 are under investigation by special prosecutors; one has been an unindicted co-conspirator. All of these associates worked with Bill Clinton in Arkansas, the White House or both.

The Special Prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, has now to decide what further indictments to bring. I believe him to be a man of integrity. My American co-editor of *Strategic Investment*, James Davidson, believes that he has failed to follow up obvious leads and has moved far too slowly. My expectation is that Bill Clinton will probably survive his second term, but under more or less continuous investigations. Whatever Kenneth Starr decides, Bill Clinton will be a much weakened President.

What progress, however, will now have to be speeded up. Foreign ministers from 50 countries have been invited to Ottawa in October to see if they can draw up a treaty to cut through the unwieldy 1980 convention and ban landmines forever. With the Princess's words echoing in their ears, and a few well placed placards showing her alongside Angola's injured victims, who can doubt that the atmosphere will be transformed?

And this may only be the thin end of a large wedge. The International Red Cross is looking at other weapons which cause "gratuitous" damage to human beings, including some that may not have progressed beyond the drawing-board. Recently, it mounted a successful campaign to ban laser weapons that cause blindness. Now it is looking at cluster-bombs, which cause appalling injuries and which can have the same effect as landmines if they lie unexploded on the ground. There are electromagnetic and acoustic weapons which destroy human organs, and fuel-air explosives worse than Napalm. No one can say for certain what the next generation of "unacceptable" weapons will consist of — only that they will be worse.

If Diana is lured further into this area, she could find herself taking on not just the odd junior minister, but the full weight of Britain's arms industry. Whether this is a suitable battle for a Princess whose experience has so far consisted largely of comforting AIDS victims and visiting terminally ill patients in hospital is questionable. But no one should doubt that if she wants to take it on, she could mount a powerful and effective campaign.

Relief for all those who have been invited to President Clinton's

nor of Arkansas, they include: Mesa airport and massive cocaine imports; frequent sex assignments arranged by state troopers, the Whitewater and Castle Grande property speculations and Savings and Loans; Hillary's questionable commodity profit the Arkansas Development Finance Agency, sweetheart loans and political donations; Lasater's cocaine offence and money laundering; the environmental damage of Don Tyson's "lakes of chicken shir".

Since he became President, they have also included Foster's death and the botched investigation; the unsolved murder of Jerry Parks; the Travelgate affair; the thousand FBI files on Republicans; the Asian campaign funds.

At present the civil case brought by Paula Jones, which is now before the Supreme Court, may be the most embarrassing problem for the President, but it is not one of the more important allegations of public wrongdoing. In most of the other cases, there are issues of obstruction of justice, corruption, criminal association, unlawful campaign funds, which go to the heart of the President's public responsibility. That he has been a compulsive womaniser is a secondary matter, though it is established by a crowd of witnesses. If one simply returns to the public record and looks at the list of Clinton associates who have already been convicted, or are under current investigation, it becomes clear how wide the network has been. To date, nine Clinton associates have been convicted of felonies; five have been convicted of misdemeanours; three have died in questionable circumstances, one of them while under investigation; 19 are under investigation by special prosecutors; one has been an unindicted co-conspirator. All of these associates worked with Bill Clinton in Arkansas, the White House or both.

The Special Prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, has now to decide what further indictments to bring. I believe him to be a man of integrity. My American co-editor of *Strategic Investment*, James Davidson, believes that he has failed to follow up obvious leads and has moved far too slowly. My expectation is that Bill Clinton will probably survive his second term, but under more or less continuous investigations. Whatever Kenneth Starr decides, Bill Clinton will be a much weakened President.

What progress, however, will now have to be speeded up. Foreign ministers from 50 countries have been invited to Ottawa in October to see if they can draw up a treaty to cut through the unwieldy 1980 convention and ban landmines forever. With the Princess's words echoing in their ears, and a few well placed placards showing her alongside Angola's injured victims, who can doubt that the atmosphere will be transformed?

And this may only be the thin end of a large wedge. The International Red Cross is looking at other weapons which cause "gratuitous" damage to human beings, including some that may not have progressed beyond the drawing-board. Recently, it mounted a successful campaign to ban laser weapons that cause blindness. Now it is looking at cluster-bombs, which cause appalling injuries and which can have the same effect as landmines if they lie unexploded on the ground. There are electromagnetic and acoustic weapons which destroy human organs, and fuel-air explosives worse than Napalm. No one can say for certain what the next generation of "unacceptable" weapons will consist of — only that they will be worse.

If Diana is lured further into this area, she could find herself taking on not just the odd junior minister, but the full weight of Britain's arms industry. Whether this is a suitable battle for a Princess whose experience has so far consisted largely of comforting AIDS victims and visiting terminally ill patients in hospital is questionable. But no one should doubt that if she wants to take it on, she could mount a powerful and effective campaign.

Relief for all those who have been invited to President Clinton's

Diana's smart weapon

Magnus Linklater on the lady and the landmines

The phrase "loose cannon", which the junior defence minister Earl Howe cannot remember using to describe Diana, Princess of Wales and her call for a ban on landmines, is an unhappy one. Like landmines, loose cannons caused unpredictable damage. The Princess's remarks, by contrast, were precisely targeted. That is what made the minister so cross, and may give the Government palpitations in future.

There may be some second thoughts now about stripping Diana of her royal title. Neither Buckingham Palace nor Downing Street may have fully appreciated that when she lost her status as Royal Highness she gained a freedom to speak out on issues that were previously forbidden territory. She now has a licence to provoke, and she gives every sign of being willing to use it. Her support for a world ban on anti-personnel landmines is embarrassing to the Government, not just because it echoes Labour's policy, but because it exposes the diplomatic balancing act that Britain, as one of the world's leading arms dealers, is trying to maintain. It is, dare I say it, a minefield.

Britain's role in manufacturing and selling this particular weapon has not been admirable, but it is by no means the worst in the world. We have not exported landmines for five years, we aim to destroy half the country's stockpile in the next few years, and we would only use them "in exceptional circumstances". Quite right too. The landmine has been called "the most ruthless of terrorists"; it kills for as little as \$3 and has killed more people than poison gas or nuclear weapons. Forty-eight countries make them, with China and Russia the major sources, and Third World countries the largest market; Russia has no agreement to restrict them, and China's only concession so far has been to make its mines "detectable", so that they can be more easily dismantled. There are thought to be more than 100 million littered around the world, with as many more in stockpiles.

Progress towards a ban has been painfully slow. After endless debate, 38 countries, including Britain, agreed to add a protocol to the 1980 Convention on "certain conventional weapons", which seeks to make a distinction between legitimate military weapons and those that cause "superfluous injury... in excess of what is needed for military purposes". But it was a feeble affair. It regulates rather than prohibits landmines by stipulating that only weapons which self-destruct after 30 days may be manufactured and sold. The trouble is that these new "improved" landmines cost \$5, and since most customers are from poor countries, they are likely to opt for the cheaper version. What is more, the protocol could take at least ten years to come into effect. Since an estimated 24,000 people are killed by landmines every year, that means 240,000 more people could be killed before the new version is introduced.

So when Diana spoke out, her message carried all the fire-power of simple logic: ban these weapons and save a quarter of a million lives. Coming from Britain's second most celebrated lady, this guaranteed not only headlines, but support. Who can possibly argue against it? Like the call for a ban on handguns after Dunblane, the campaign against landmines sounds irrefragable, which is why Downing Street mounted a soothing operation yesterday to make clear that it too supports "progress towards" a worldwide ban.

That progress, however, will now have to be speeded up. Foreign ministers from 50 countries have been invited to Ottawa in October to see if they can draw up a treaty to cut through the unwieldy 1980 convention and ban landmines forever. With the Princess's words echoing in their ears, and a few well placed placards showing her alongside Angola's injured victims, who can doubt that the atmosphere will be transformed?

And this may only be the thin end of a large wedge. The International Red Cross is looking at other weapons which cause "gratuitous" damage to human beings, including some that may not have progressed beyond the drawing-board. Recently, it mounted a successful campaign to ban laser weapons that cause blindness. Now it is looking at cluster-bombs, which cause appalling injuries and which can have the same effect as landmines if they lie unexploded on the ground. There are electromagnetic and acoustic weapons which destroy human organs, and fuel-air explosives worse than Napalm. No one can say for certain what the next generation of "unacceptable" weapons will consist of — only that they will be worse.

If Diana is lured further into this area, she could find herself taking on not just the odd junior minister, but the full weight of Britain's arms industry. Whether this is a suitable battle for a Princess whose experience has so far consisted largely of comforting AIDS victims and visiting terminally ill patients in hospital is questionable. But no one should doubt that if she wants to take it on, she could mount a powerful and effective campaign.

Money talks

FROM the moment that Kermit the Frog stood up to address the Oxford Union in 1994, it became clear that a debate at the university is no longer the game of intellectual oneupmanship it once was. Star guest of the current term-card is Mandy Allwood.

Allwood provoked a welter of criticism when she refused selective abortion and sold the story of her multiple pregnancy to the *News of the World* through Max Clifford. It was Clifford who presented O.J. Simpson at the Union last summer; he has also arranged Allwood's appearance in February. The Oxford Union President, Rob Harrington, says that Allwood will support the motion "This House believes that British abortion law is too liberal". Pro-choice students are already planning their strategy for the debate and an attempt to flood the chamber with their supporters.

Allwood was out of contact yesterday, but Clifford says that he will himself be speaking at the debate — in favour of abortion. It is unclear whether this means that he will be speaking against his former client, who has informed close

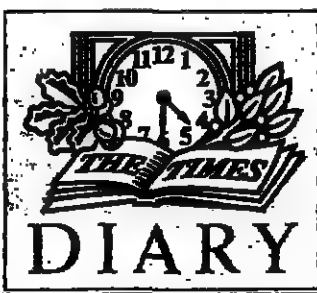
friends that she has made more than £600,000 from her failed pregnancy.

Pax Brit

SECURITY is under review at the British Embassy in Rome, after Giles Paxman, senior diplomat and brother of the broadcaster Jer-



It must be the Lyceum. I've found a fragment of a Joe Loss poster



emy, smashed his way out of the building, Schwarzenegger-style. As Economic Attaché, he prides himself on his Stalinovite capacity for work. Staying late one night, he found himself locked in the office. Rather than phone security for help, he grabbed a fire-extinguisher and headed manfully for the main door.

"I battered my way out," he says. "I had to break the door down. It could have happened to anyone."

Paxman has since received an earwigging from London, but Tom Richardson, new Ambassador to the Quirinal Palace, has taken a sanguine view — decreeing a "crackdown on over-zealousness".

Wrong focus

ARGENTINA has been ungracious in its treatment of Hugh Grant

and Liz Hurley, who visited the country the other day to promote the film *Extreme Measures*, starring Grant and produced by Hurley.

When they arrived at the airport in Buenos Aires, the VIP lounge was not made available. The couple were besieged by fans, photographers and journalists, whose inquiries centred on Grant's tangle with the street-walker Divine Brown rather than on the film.

The trip was summed up by Grant's appearance on the main nightly news. He yawned at an interviewer's question, told her that her programme was "second rate" and that "journalists are morose scum — anyone would have to be corrupt and nasty to be a journalist." The film has not been a success.

Early Bird

WHEN Michael Heseltine sinks into his bath with a copy of *Country Life* this Friday night, as he does every week, he is in for a surprise. As part of its centenary celebrations, the magazine is featuring suggestive female nudes wearing pearls, a conceit on the traditional "girls in pearls".

Accompanying the celebratory edition is a reproduction of the



Would the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire still approve?

first *Country Life*, published in January 1897, which carried the tremendous Earl in Pearls, a sadly defunct feature, with the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire kicking things off. From the look above that moustache, he does not seem to have been the sort to complain about being usurped by decorated, naked women.

Relief for all those who have been invited to President Clinton's



various inaugural balls next Monday night: Hillary Clinton has chosen a gown by the designer Oscar de la Renta, based in New York. The first lady had earlier been toying with the idea of wearing something from Badgley Mischka, a dressmaker whose signature is the erotically-charged semi-transparent ballgown.

P.H.S

هكذا من الأصل

Diana
Smart
weapon



PEACE IN THEIR TIME

The process moves forward: it should not be rushed

Six days were once enough to win a war in the Middle East. The process of building peace has proved much more demanding of time. After long delay and countless false dawns, Binyamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat have reached agreement on the redeployment of Israeli troops in Hebron and a wider three-stage withdrawal from the West Bank. Having finally dealt with the Palestinian leader, the Prime Minister forced his documents through an evidently reluctant Cabinet. It remains to be seen whether the Israeli Government can continue in its current form.

Various factions within Likud and splinter parties to the right of it have accused Mr Netanyahu of betrayal. That charge has no substance. At the Israeli election last May their candidate stood as the figure who favoured peace with security. The explicit contrast was with Shimon Peres who was accused of seeking peace at almost any price. Although it has won him few friends in the region or wider international community, Mr Netanyahu can credibly claim to have fulfilled his mandate. The pact he has initiated places far greater stress on the protection of Jewish settlers than one that re-elected Mr Peres would have accepted. In holding out, Mr Netanyahu resisted intense pressure from Arab neighbours and American negotiators.

To denounce the Prime Minister for undue moderation and a cavalier approach to Israel's interests defies belief. The only sense in which outraged Likud supporters and the assorted religious parties can make such a claim is if for them the term "peace with security" really meant "no peace". It probably did but had they expressed that view openly the Israeli electorate would have rejected them and Mr Peres would still be premier. The reality is that Mr Netanyahu has delivered the best practicable arrangement that circumstances allowed.

Both the intensity of opposition within Israel and the rejection by Hamas

demonstrate the continued fragility of the peace process. The main momentum behind the Hebron bargain was mutual fear of the alternative. Before any more ambitious targets can be set, this latest understanding must demonstrate its practical worth.

Israel must be willing to permit real self-government in the areas it is vacating. The Palestinian authorities must prove that they can preserve law and order in their newly re-occupied territory. Only then will anger and suspicion abate. All this requires time. Patience, not provocative gesture politics, is essential. Mr Arafat should eliminate references to immediate statehood from his rhetoric. Mr Netanyahu must resist the temptation of permitting a major expansion of settlements to appease his right wing.

That same sense of restraint should be exercised by outside parties. The questions that the peace process must address in the final status stage are even more complex than that of Hebron. The position of Jewish settlements and the standing of Jerusalem are at the very heart of the Middle East conflict. No Israeli Prime Minister could possibly orchestrate a compromise on these matters unless enormous confidence was achieved in previous undertakings. Similarly, both the United States and Egypt would be wise not to press Mr Netanyahu on the issue of the Golan Heights. His distrust of President Assad is well placed. The next move on that score belongs squarely to Syria. King Hussein of Jordan has displayed the sensitivity essential to brokering a broad consensus.

The process has advanced, painfully perhaps but positively. There were many who declared it dead after the election of Mr Netanyahu or the surging of violence on the West Bank four months ago. Such pessimism has not been justified. Further progress can come but cannot be commanded. All concerned need to recognise that and work with it. A protracted peace negotiation is far better than none at all.

PASSPORT PRACTICES

Britain must reject Spain's latest threats on Gibraltar

There is much that is good in the present Spanish Government of José María Aznar, and much of that goodness stems from a refreshing faith in common sense. Yet there is one area in which that Government has consistently failed to adopt an intelligent policy, falling back instead on bad habits drawn from a darker, less democratic Spanish age. That area is Gibraltar.

As our Madrid correspondent reports today, the Spanish Government has indicated that it could shortly withdraw all recognition from passports issued in Gibraltar. These documents, good for travel around the world — and, for the last 36 years, good for travel to Spain — have attracted the ire of the Spanish Foreign Ministry, which believes that they should not exist at all. If Spain proceeds with the decision at which it has hinted, thousands of Gibraltarians could find themselves "shut in" on land, unable to travel across the border to the Spanish mainland. The havoc, hardship and economic loss that this would cause to the Rock would be considerable.

Naturally, the effects of such an unlawful move would be felt also in relations between Britain and Spain. The British Government could not allow such a policy, if put into effect, to go unchallenged. When the Prime Minister, Edward Heath, took us formally into the European Community on January 1, 1973, Gibraltar was accorded special status under Article 227 (4) of the Treaty of Rome, through which it became a member with certain well-defined limitations. These limitations did not affect the right to freedom of

movement for Gibraltarians within Europe, and Spain, at the time of its accession in 1986, was fully aware of the rules.

To an objective observer, the attitude of Spain's Government towards Gibraltar can generate only bewilderment. The people of the Rock have elected the most conciliatory Administration in their history. The Chief Minister, Peter Caruana, was swept to power last May on a platform of dialogue and co-operation with Spain. But what has he got in return from Madrid? Not goodwill; nor even diplomatic correctness. Instead, the Spanish Government has hectoring him, threatened periodically to close the border, and now indicated that it might soon refuse to honour the passports of his people.

Blame for this state of affairs must lie squarely with Abel Matutes, the Spanish Foreign Minister, who has been as inept in his dealings with Gibraltar as he seems bereft of ideas in other areas of international relations. By making absolutely nothing of the opportunities offered by Mr Caruana, Señor Matutes has squandered the best chance Spain has ever had to win hearts and minds in Gibraltar.

These are the truths which Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, must point out to his counterpart next week when he travels to Madrid for talks on the colony. By its threats to the Rock's passports, Spain not only confirms the fears of the many Gibraltarians who distrust "perfidious España" deeply, it succeeds even in alienating that portion of Gibraltar's population which wishes to live in harmony with Spain.

PUMPKINS OF GOLD

Aristotle's Lyceum lives to teach another day

To walk with Aristotle has been the daydream of intellectuals down the ages: the discovery of Aristotle's school under a car park in Athens makes it possible that a few more may walk in his footsteps.

The Lyceum was the forerunner of the modern university. Anyone surprised that the first find at the site was a wrestling ground should consider what succeeding archaeologists and scholars in two thousand years might think of Oxford University: rugby pitches, cricket pavilions and boat-houses survive better than computers or books. The Athenians believed in an all-round education, and the studios among them benefited from the informality of a lecture hall and leisure centre combined.

Today the Lyceum lies at the centre of the modern city, about a mile from the Acropolis. But it stood outside the walls of ancient Athens, in a suburban grove sacred to Apollo the "wolf-killer". Burgers of that city may be embracing their favourite son this week, but in the 4th century BC, as a non-Athenian, Aristotle could not own property. He suffered the additional handicap of having a Macedonian father (equivalent to being of German descent in 1914 London) who was intimate with the royal family of that rising rival power. He became himself the tutor of Alexander the Great and twice had to flee from Athens into exile.

At the centre of the Lyceum was the teacher. Aristotle's works stretched from politics to poetry, mind to magnetism and from antiquarian history to the dynamics of

the River Nile. But, unlike his predecessor Plato, he was not a literary writer. He wrote mostly notes for his lectures and conversations. Although Cicero described Aristotle's writings as "a golden river", he was either flattering or describing a resource to be mined by himself and others. Philosophers have been mining gold from Aristotle's Lyceum notes ever since.

A comic poet once portrayed Aristotle standing benevolently over a crowd of young men "portentously trying to define whether a pumpkin is a vegetable, a grass or a tree". But for scientists as late as Harvey and Darwin the scientific and classificatory works of Aristotle were still bringing ideas. Sixteen lines in his *De Anima* have sparked more modern study of mind and thought than any other passage in history.

Only four fifths of Aristotle's known works survive. The library at the school is almost certain to have been shredded by rebuilding and it would be extraordinary if any new whole books should survive. Nor is a philosopher's school ever likely to be as revealing as an artist's studio. The Greek archaeologist who compared the events this week to finding "the workshop of Leonardo da Vinci" was indulging in traditional Greek hyperbole.

But even ashes from the Lyceum may fascinate. In the architecture of modern Elea still stand clues to the mind of Parmenides; students of Russell and Wittgenstein dabble purposefully in the day-to-day detritus of their lives. So may it be for Aristotle too.

FO support for the Serbian protesters

From the Foreign Secretary

Sir, Your letter of January 15, "The silent Secretary", emphasised the need for Western Governments to give public support to those brave people in Serbia who are protesting at the attempts of their Government to annul the recent local elections.

I agree wholeheartedly. I have publicly condemned the annulment of opposition victories by the Serbian authorities. On December 2, I said that if Serbia wished to become a full member of the European family of nations, it had to respect democratic institutions and election results — precisely the point made in your letter.

Public statements are an important way of conveying international pressure. But they are not enough. We need action by governments, and in the appropriate international bodies. I wrote to President Milosevic urging him to recognise the opposition victories. I cancelled the visit to the UK of Mr Sainovic, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), which had been arranged for mid-December. I strongly supported the EU decision to suspend the planned extension of autonomous trade measures to the FRY. And I decided that we should step up our existing contacts with the FRY opposition: our Ambassador in Belgrade is in daily touch with them and one of their leaders, Mr Djindjic, has been invited to visit London. We have given strong, direct support to the independent media in Serbia, as part of our primary objective — a democratic Serbia.

This is hardly silence. On the contrary, it goes well beyond the statements which we have agreed in the EU and with our Contact Group partners.

Yours sincerely,
MALCOLM RIFKIND,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
Downing Street (West), SW1,
January 15.

Leaving hospital

From Mr Nigel H. Harris

Sir, Dr Stuart Sanders (letter, January 8) comments on early premature discharge of private patients from hospital. This has occurred on a regular basis in recent years in regard to NHS patients — usually to comply with the rules of the internal market and the patient's charter. When a disaster occurs there is media comment; from time to time there has been legal action against doctors and hospitals.

Discharge of patients from hospital is the sole responsibility of a doctor — usually a consultant. They should not allow their clinical judgment to be compromised by pressure from hospital managers and insurance companies.

In the event of a patient suffering harm in these circumstances, the doctor will be liable because of a failure in their duty of care. Their action would be considered indefensible.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL HARRIS
(Consultant orthopaedic surgeon),
72 Harley Street, W1,
January 10.

Quite the proper style

From Mr Dennis Barker

Sir, I am bewildered by the almost universal ridicule in the press of the local hat the Prime Minister wore on his visit to the Indian sub-continent.

Why, except in the unconsciously racist mind, is this hat any more intrinsically ludicrous than the bowler, the top-hat, the boater, the pull-on woolly, the Panama or the fedora?

Why (Peter Brooke's cartoon to-day) does wearing it as a light-hearted courtesy to his hosts make John Major comparable with a clown?

Yours sincerely,
DENNIS BARKER,
67 Speldhurst Road, Chiswick, W4,
January 15.

Labour and the Lords

From Mr M. A. Griffiths

Sir, The question is not whether Jack Straw is descended from a 17th-century royal bastard (letter, January 15). The question is whether he would claim a lifelong hereditary seat in the legislature as a result.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN GRIFFITHS,
122 Westbourne Grove,
Notting Hill, W11,
January 15.

Future of Royal Yacht

From Mr Hugh Hanning

Sir, Why cannot any future Royal Yacht be used, as always intended, in a humanitarian role ("Royal Yacht decision" may be too late for the millennium)?, report, January 3; letters, December 17 and 28.

When a major disaster strikes near a coastline, the Americans can immediately direct warships to the area after a Pentagon/State Department dialogue which can get a decision within a couple of hours.

Britain, however, does not have a fraction of America's warships, nor does it have effective machinery for the dispatch of those we have. It took

Labour record on education reform

From Mr Nicholas Bennett

Sir, It is really too late for Labour to claim they are the party of education reform ("Blair sets sights on new deal for schools", report, January 13).

Over the years my wife and I have served as Conservative school governors on schools in an inner London Labour borough. Every time the Government has introduced a new education reform the Labour governors, with the support of the local education authority, have done everything in their power to undermine them: national testing, the National Curriculum, grant-maintained status, Ofsted inspections, the publication of examination results — you name it they campaigned against it. Dare to suggest any tried and traditional teaching methods and one would go home to the sound of Labour governors' jeers.

If they were really interested they could have taken action years ago, for Labour or their Liberal Democrat allies control the vast majority of LEAs. Indeed, the highest spending, poorest performing councils are all Labour controlled and have been for many years. So bad are they that Mr Blair and Mrs Harman send their children out of the boroughs controlled by the Labour Party and off to grant-maintained schools.

The real party of education is the Tory Party. Whether it has been the expansion of higher and further education, school reform or the introduction of nursery vouchers, it has been the Conservatives who have had the courage to introduce them, often in the face of stiff opposition from the union-led education establishment.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS BENNETT
(Conservative MP for
Pembroke, 1987-92),
86 Tilehurst Road,
Reading, Berkshire,
January 13.

Law enforcement on drink-driving

From Mr Michael Gould

Sir, Professor K. T. V. Grattan's letter of January 7, suggesting that stopping and breath-testing at random by the police is already taking place, calls for comment.

Section 163 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 gives general power to a constable in uniform to stop a motor vehicle: this is regardless of whether the constable suspects drink-driving or any other offence. Once having stopped a motorist, unless there has been an accident, the constable may only lawfully require a breath test under Section 6 of the Act if he has reasonable cause to suspect the motorist has alcohol in his body or has committed a traffic offence while the vehicle was in motion: in practice the police usually rely on the former of the two grounds available as justification for administering a test.

As Professor Grattan suggests, the extremely small failure rate of 1 per cent in two areas of the country over the Christmas period raises suspicions of random testing, in which case the police are acting unlawfully. It is not conclusive, however, as the police could conceivably be testing large numbers who drink but stay under the limit.

I also understand that over this period the police was to breath-test drivers involved in every accident they were called to, however minor.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL GOULD,
Staffordshire University,
Law School,
Leek Road, Stoke-on-Trent.

From Mr Andrew Wales

Sir, HM Coroner for South Yorkshire (East) writes (letter, January 7) that

In the steps of Todd

From Dr D. H. Sharp

Sir, Your excellent obituary of Lord Todd (January 15) mentions the disrespectful nickname used by his students of "Todd Almighty". There was, however, the rather more endearing name of "Toddlers" given to those distinguished chemists who followed his example by moving from Manchester University to Cambridge.

He told me this himself when he was the President of the Society of Chemical Industry, an office he held in 1981-82.

Yours faithfully,
D. H. SHARP
(General Secretary, Society of Chemical Industry, 1967-82),
Greenhill House, Shoreham Road,
Oxford, Sevenoaks, Kent.

forever for one warship to be sent to Bangladesh from Karachi following the floods of 1991, while US ships equipped with huge medical facilities were queuing up.

Earlier, in August 1988, also in Bangladesh, a British aircraft carrier urgently needed was actually passing en route to Australia, but was not diverted because, as I understand it, the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) considered that MoD charges were excessive.

They were right. Chiefs of Staff in my experience will testify that huge Treasury charges price them out of the ODA market. Unlike some other countries, allowance is not deducted for the high training value of disaster relief.

From Mr Geoffrey J. Samuel

Sir, I regard the impudence of Mr Tony Blair as breathtaking. During 23 years as headmaster of a comprehensive school I saw how necessary it was for central government to legislate in an attempt to counter the policies and practices of Labour-controlled LEAs.

It was a Labour LEA which added the slogan "socialism at work" in the mid-1980s to all its advertisements in the educational press; it was the director of education in a Labour authority who hoped that none of the pupils would apply to Oxford and Cambridge; and the effect of the discouragement of competitive games could, in my view, be seen both at the Atlanta Olympics and recently in Zimbabwe.

I saw at first hand the consequences of rating the politics of gender, class and race above traditional standards and the effect of labelling the pursuit of excellence as "elitism". Never once in 23 years did I attend a meeting or discussion concerned with academic standards. Levelling was the order of the day — even if it meant levelling down.

Those of us with such experience are rightly angry when we see the leader of a party which espoused the notion of "socialism in action" posturing as the defender of those standards which Labour LEAs did so much to destroy. I hope the electorate will take note of Mr Blair's actions rather than his words: after all he could have sent his own sons to a comprehensive in a typical Labour LEA.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY J. SAMUEL
(Headmaster, The Heathland School,
Hounslow, 1973-96),
25 Thurnby Court,
Wellesley Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex,
January 13.

"people are not affected by less than 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood".

In 1992 the Department of Transport stated that "any amount of alcohol will affect your judgment". At a level of 20-80mg of alcohol per 100ml blood, significantly below the current permitted maximum, it states that:

You may not be able to judge distance and speed of oncoming vehicles clearly. You may also have a tendency to take greater risks, particularly in dangerous manoeuvres such as overtaking.

The present law does work well, and maybe it would work better after fine tuning. Sadly there are still those who think that "one for the road" is acceptable. Whatever the legal limit is now or becomes in the future my view is that the only answer is not to drink and drive.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW WALES,
The Pleasance, Priorswood,
Compton, Guildford, Surrey.

From Mr Stephen Archer

Sir, It is just not good enough to exhort people not to drink and drive, while the law says, in effect, that a modest amount of alcohol is acceptable. It is virtually impossible to spell out in meaningful terms just what is a modest amount. The law does not do it, but does impose a mandatory driving ban should the driver get it wrong.

All motor vehicles must, by law, be fitted with a speedometer to enable the driver to obey the speed limit. With alcohol, for which exceeding the limit carries a much more severe penalty, the driver has to guess.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN ARCHER,
41 Old Orchard, Harlow, Essex,
January 7.

By any other name

From Mr George B. Lockes

Sir, Contrary to your report of January 6, "Mandela ousted as student bar hero" (see also leading article, January 6; letter, January 7), the Mandela bar at Leicester University was renamed The Oasis in the summer of 1994, before the ascent to fame of the popular beat combo of that name.

The bar is a watering hole for thirsty students. There is nothing more to it than that.

Yours faithfully,
G. B. LOCKES
(Postgraduate researcher),
University of Leicester,
School of Medicine,
PO Box 138,
University Road, Leicester,
January 10.

Things are at last improving, but a real need still exists for a dedicated British hospital ship which would be able to short-circuit the Whitehall system. Its speed of response, albeit a modest 500 miles a day, would normally be much greater than that of faster forms of transport hampered by Whitehall red tape.

Yours etc.
HUGH HANNING
(Chairman, Fontmell Group
on Disaster Relief),
18 Montpelier Row, Blackheath, SE3.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

New light shed on Shakespeare stars

From the Editor of The Shakespearean Almanac

Sir, Shakespeare was also meditating upon cosmological matters in *Troilus and Cressida* ("Astronomer discovers cast of stars hidden in Hamlet", report, January 14), which he wrote around the same time as *Hamlet*.

The famous speech on degree, in which Ulysses speaks of "the heavens themselves, the planets and this centre", is deliberately ambiguous as to the centre of the solar system. The play includes two allusions to the *Magneis* of William Gilbert (1600), a treatise with strong implications for Copernican cosmology.

Troilus himself must be modelled on Tycho Brahe, the Danish astronomer. When Helen speaks of Troilus's "copper nose" we may take her quite literally. Tycho lost his nose whilst duelling as a youth and, as can be seen in portraits, had thereafter to wear a substitute, made from gold, silver and copper.

Yours faithfully,
PETER ADAMS, Editor,
The Shakespearean Almanac,
33 Vicarage Road, SW4,
January 14.

Globe excavations

From the Chief Executive of the International Shakespeare Globe Centre

Sir, Last week planning permission to bury permanently the remains of the Globe Theatre without further investigation was granted by Southwark Council, so that the site can be developed as new flats (report, January 11).

The site was partially excavated in 1989. The findings revealed crucial evidence about the design and layout of the Globe Theatre that enabled the academics and architects working on the designs of the reconstructed Globe to proceed. However, from the archaeology we cannot be certain about the diameter of the Globe, the orientation of the stage or whether it was square or tapered — as at the Rose Theatre.

The reconstructed Globe is a living, working theatre as well as a laboratory for experiment. We are resolved to adapt the Globe in the light of new information from archaeology, research and playing.

Thus the design of the Globe can never be "permanent" until the original site is excavated to its full potential. While burial of the remains would retain their archaeological information for the future, the implication in the planning permission documents — "for the permanent burial and commemoration" of the original remains — is that this will never happen.

This decision cannot be right in the light of the international academic and scholarly interest in the Globe, the dedication and support of the project from thousands of people from all over the world, and the interest taken by the 300,000 visitors who have come to the exhibition over the last two years.

Whilst the Grade II listed Anchor Terrace building, which stands over much of the remains, should not be disturbed, further excavations are possible. It is to be hoped that the Secretary of State for the Environment will reconsider the planning permission that has been granted and that a broader view can be taken of the importance of these remains.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HOLDEN,
Chief Executive,
International Shakespeare
Globe Centre Ltd,
Bear Gardens, Bankside, SE1,
January 13.

Howard's bid

From Mr David Laws

Sir, "Can anyone stop Michael Howard?" In his bid for the leadership of the Conservative Party, asks Peter Riddell (January 14).

The answer, your readers will be relieved to know, is that the electorate can. In the next general election Michael Howard will be defending a majority of 8,910 at Folkestone and Hythe, one of the most marginal seats held by a Cabinet Minister, against a strong Liberal Democrat challenge and a potentially damaging Referendum Party intervention (Mr John Aspinall).

Conservative MPs may never get the chance to elect as leader the most accident-prone Home Secretary of this century.

Sincerely,
DAVID LAWS (Prospective
parliamentary candidate, Liberal
Democrat, Folkestone and Hythe),
1 Braeside Cottages,
Cullings Hill, Elham, Kent,
January 14.

Clifford 'vendetta'

From Mr Duncan Howarth

Sir, Can it be, do you think, that Mr Max Clifford (reports, January 6, 7, 14; letter, January 7) has been secretly commissioned by the Conservatives to behave in a way calculated to arouse public sympathy for them?

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN HOWARTH,
Chanctonbury, Pickering Street,
Loose, Maidstone, Kent,
January 14.

THE TIMES

2

INSIDE
SECTION
2
TODAY



BUSINESS
Even more
grounds for
rising costs
PAGE 27



TRAVEL
Are you ready
for the Stonehenge
experience?
PAGES 36, 37



SPORT
Naming the front
five for rugby
union's big kick-off
PAGES 38-44

**TELEVISION
AND
RADIO
PAGES
42, 43**

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY JANUARY 16 1997

Tougher rules on holiday failures

By MARIANNE CORPHER

TOUGH new rules to make directors of failed holiday companies personally liable for millions of pounds of travellers' compensation claims have been announced by the Civil Aviation Authority.

The move follows a number of high-profile failures, among them the Flight Company based in Kingston upon Thames, which collapsed in July last year at a cost of £8 million. It had sold more flights than it was licensed to sell under a bonding arrangement run by the CAA and known as the Air Travel Organisers' Licence (Atol).

The cost of compensating travellers fell on the Air Travel Trust Fund, a pooled fund collected in the past through a levy on passenger tickets. During the last financial year, the CAA refunded 21,000 people and enabled 14,000 to complete their holidays after operators failed.

Last September the CAA issued a consultation document seeking views on how overtrading could be controlled and how to prevent overtrading. The CAA announced it would explore with government whether a new back-up fund might be set up to stand behind Atol and non-licensed bonds.

The CAA proposes that directors should be personally liable if they overtrade, and that figures on bookings should be supplied on a monthly basis to the CAA by larger Atol holders. It recommends a specialist CAA team to monitor more closely the business done by licensed companies, and greater powers for the CAA to require information from licence-holders.

Helen Simpson, head of licensing and finance at the CAA, said: "This is a balanced package, which we think will help us to control those who abuse the system without being too restrictive for honest and properly managed firms."



Shona Muir became the Office Secretary of the Year yesterday at a ceremony in London. Ms Muir is PA and office administrator for Raychem, where she works for the UK defence manager in the electronics division. She was presented with her prizes by Judith Hurd, chairman of the Cancer Research Campaign and wife of the former Foreign Secretary

Jobless fall adds to rate rise fears

By JANET BUSH AND PHILIP BASSETT

LONDON'S financial markets spent a nervous session worrying about the outcome of yesterday's monetary meeting, particularly in view of news of an unexpectedly large fall in unemployment in December.

Speculation that Kenneth Clark, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, would agree on another quarter-point rise in base rates had waned in recent days because of evidence of a disappointing Christmas shopping season and some good inflation figures. But yesterday's unemployment news revived City fears once again.

The Government's headline unemployment total, fell another 45,100 in December to 1,884,700 or 6.7 per cent of the UK workforce, according to the Office for National Statistics. This was the tenth successive monthly fall and took both the unemployment

total and the rate of unemployment to their lowest levels since January 1991.

Unemployment has now dropped 1,096,400 since it last peaked in December 1992 and by 850,800 in the past year.

Despite showing a far smaller fall than the 95,400 decline in November, the figures were strong enough to put the market back on the defensive. On the stock market, the FT-SE 100 first raced to new records but then retreated on the jobs news. It closed 9.3 points lower at 4,158.9.

The pound, which has profited recently from expectations that rates are heading higher, closed firmer. On its index against a basket of currencies, it finished at 96.3 from 95.9 on Tuesday.

The monetary meeting began as scheduled in mid-afternoon and went on for about an hour and a half. Because the meeting began after the Bank had already

completed its daily money market operations, any signal that rates have been raised is likely to come this morning at just before 10am.

This will coincide with the latest retail prices figures which would have been available at yesterday's monetary meeting and are expected to show the main measures of inflation falling, but only marginally, in December.

Even after the latest jobs figures, the City on balance believes that the Chancellor will have held out against any Bank desire for a rate rise this month, preferring to wait until February's meeting.

One encouraging element of yesterday's labour market statistics was that annual growth in average earnings has remained steady at 4 per cent, suggesting that steep declines in unemployment is not putting significant upward pressure on wages.

Simon Briscoe, UK economist at Nikko Europe, said:

"The inflationary pressures are not obvious — they are only there for those that want to see them. The massive fall in unemployment in November now seems to be an erratic and no one in their right mind could creditably use that as an excuse for higher rates. We expect the question of rates to be addressed in February."

Ministers immediately praised the fall in unemployment as evidence of the success of its economic and labour market policies. But their optimistic assessment was somewhat undermined by Whitehall statisticians being forced to suspend their usual monthly estimates of the trend of unemployment reductions because of the difficulty of analysing a number of special factors, chief of which is the introduction last October of the jobseeker's allowance.

Labour yesterday denounced official unemployment data as "figures of fantasy".

MPs' anger over £50m savings loss

By ADAM JONES

MEMBERS of Parliament investigating a £50 million "black hole" in the accounts of National Savings yesterday described its procedures as shambolic and inadequate.

At a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee, Peter Bareaud, chief executive of National Savings, said that the £50 million shortfall had been reduced to £3 million after internal investigations.

The "black hole" in investment and ordinary accounts was exposed last October by the National Audit Office (NAO). Mike Hall, a Labour MP, accused National Savings of incompetence. Tim

Smith, a Conservative MP, said it was thoroughly inadequate that only two forms of National Savings — investment and deposit accounts — were audited by the NAO. From 1996-97, it will check all product accounts.

Mr Smith also said that the Treasury should not escape blame. National Savings has been an executive agency with a certain degree of autonomy since July 1996.

Mr Bareaud partly blamed outdated computer systems and said that National Savings had failed to develop a close enough relationship with the NAO.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET

FTSE 100	4158.9	(-9.3)
FTSE All share	2040.18	(-2.40)
Nikkei	Closed	
Dow Jones	6718.80	(-43.49)*
S&P Composite	785.68	(-3.20)*

UNIT RATE

Federal Funds	5.00%	(5.00%)
Long Bond	96.0%	(96.0%)
Yield	8.80%	(8.77%)

LONDON MONEY

3-month Interbank	8.00%	(8.00%)
12m long gft	108.0%	(108.0%)

STERLING

New York	1.6780*	(1.6715)
London		
DM	1.8786	(1.8690)
DM	2.5654	(2.5603)
FF	8.9962	(8.9797)
SP	2.2889	(2.2977)
Yen	196.42	(195.05)
S index	98.3	(98.5)

US DOLLAR

London	1.8816*	(1.8820)
DM	1.8720*	(1.8700)
FF	1.3735*	(1.3725)
Yen	117.22*	(116.93)
S index	98.3	(98.5)

Yen close Yen 116.58

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Mar)	\$22.80	(\$23.00)
--------------------	---------	-----------

GOLD

London close	\$384.15	(\$387.45)
--------------	----------	------------

* denotes midday trading price

Mixed message

Retailers sent out contrasting messages about Christmas trading. The Body Shop revealed a sales dip and Kingfisher a successful Christmas, with Comet and B&Q its star performers. **Page 25, Timesp 26**

Profits blow

Stanley Leisure suffered a £2 million loss in profits from the record seven winners ridden by the jockey, Frankie Dettori, at Ascot in the autumn. Profits still rose 21 per cent. **Page 28, Timesp 26**

Esso pays £200m price for watching superstores

By CARL MORTSHED

ESSO'S Pricewatch campaign is believed to have cost the oil company £200 million last year but the policy of matching the lowest competing local price at the petrol pump will continue.

The company confirmed yesterday that its profits had suffered from Pricewatch but said it believed the campaign was successful in restoring market share lost to discounters, mainly the food superstores.

Esso claims to have re-

claimed 1 million customers but Wood Mackenzie, the oil consultant, believes that Esso sacrificed a third of its UK profits in an effort to match superstore pump prices.

Wood Mackenzie questions the wisdom of the oil company's strategy of selling petrol on price alone. The effect on profit margins was worst in the second quarter of last year, when a combination of rising oil prices and weak petrol retail prices squeezed the retailer's margin to as little as 2p per litre.

According to Wood Mac-

kenzie, 2p is the lowest margin at which even the large superstore sites can break even selling huge volumes of petrol. Smaller independents need to earn more than 6p per litre to make a profit. Some 1,500-2,000 sites are believed to have closed last year but Wood Mackenzie reckons that rate may slow.

Rising crude oil prices have helped retailers to disguise the increased margins, despite a glut of unleaded gasoline in the wholesale market. As a result average margins have edged up to 5p per litre.

Lanica statement aims to end speculation

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SHARES of Lanica Trust, the wonder stock whose meteoric rise has had traders baffled, are expected to open sharply lower today after the company issued a statement designed to end speculation that it has a huge deal in the pipeline.

The statement, issued at the request of the Stock Exchange but after the close of trading, said Lanica was unaware of any reasons for its shares' "substantial" rise over recent months.

Lanica's shares rose from just 58p in September to a

peak of £20.50 three months later, boosted by rumours that Littlewoods wanted to back its retail business into the company to gain a stock market listing.

Littlewoods' denial of the story two weeks ago sent the shares lower but they then stabilised and closed yesterday at £15.50.

As an investment company, Lanica cannot spend more than 20 per cent of its gross assets on any one investment, it pointed out. Its assets, according to a spokesman, are around £3.2 million.

Kleinwort seeks £100,000 from Tim Horlick

By ROBERT MILLER
BANKING CORRESPONDENT



Horlick went to Salomon

KLEINWORT BENSON, one of the City's leading fund managers, is seeking up to £100,000 in damages from Tim Horlick, husband of Nicola Horlick, who was suspended from her job as head of Morgan Grenfell's £18 billion pension fund business on Tuesday.

As Morgan Grenfell yesterday continued its investigation into a possible breach of contract by Mrs Horlick, Kleinwort confirmed that it is in litigation with her husband. The legal action stems from his leaving Kleinwort last summer

to take up a senior post with Salomon Brothers. An injunction demanding that he return confidential documents and refrain from approaching former colleagues was backed by a judge in chambers and Kleinwort is now seeking damages. A spokesman said: "Mr Horlick committed a serious breach of his legal obligations as a director and we are seeking a satisfactory settlement."

The Morgan Grenfell inquiry relating to Mrs Horlick, who is believed to have earned £1.5 million, centres on talks that she had with a view to joining ABN Amro, the Dutch bank, although no final offer is said to have been tabled. Morgan Grenfell,

owned by Deutsche Bank, became concerned after hearing reports from staff and clients that up to 12 of Mrs Horlick's team might consider joining her.

Inquiries by *The Times* have established that Mrs Horlick approached Mercury Asset Management, the employer that she left for Morgan Grenfell in 1991, with a view to rejoining it. She is believed to have offered herself and several others and suggested a senior position, possibly vice-chairman. Mercury is said to have declined the approach.

*Superwoman' lifestyle, page 5
Pennington, page 25

James Capel Investment Management welcomes Private Clients

We are one of the leading private client investment managers in the UK, providing individual portfolio services from £200,000 for both domestic and offshore clients.

For further information, please contact:
Duncan MacIntyre
James Capel Investment Management
6 Bevis Marks, London, EC3A 7JQ.
Telephone: 0171-626 0566 Facsimile: 0171-283 3187

James Capel Investment Management

James Capel Investment Management is a trading name of HSBC Investment Bank plc.
Regulated by SFA and a member of the London Stock Exchange.

Member HSBC Group

هكذا في الأصل

□ Radical plans for DSS cost-cutting □ Guinness plays a waiting game □ When loyalty is a rare commodity

Properties in a PRIME location

□ THERE is no good reason, other than for the purpose of ritual humiliation or ensuring the black economy shuts down for one day in seven, why the unemployed and other benefits claimants should have to make a weekly visit to their local Department of Social Security office.

For that matter there is no real reason why there should be 700 DSS offices scattered across the country, each seemingly dedicated to providing the best example of 1960s Neo-Brutalist public corporation architecture. These property assets are so extensive and so widespread that the DSS, even with its £85 billion annual budget, cannot afford to maintain them properly.

Ten per cent of them are empty; many have negative value, the cost of repairing them more than they are worth in good condition. And still the social security budget rises.

Three City groups, led by NationsBank, Goldman Sachs and Nomura, will on January 31 place their bids to take over the DSS properties and ensure a reduction in running costs over the next 20 years. The PRIME project, part of the Government's Private Finance Initiative, is arguably the most important privatisation since water and electricity. At the heart of the argument is the same old axiom that any public sector monopoly

is eventually going to be run on behalf of its employees.

A utility can be cut loose, management incentivised to ensure the customer comes first. It does not always work that way, but so goes the ideology. But how do you impose the same public sector disciplines on a government department?

The solution being tried at the DSS, and to be followed if successful at other high-spending departments such as the Inland Revenue, is to require a one-off payment for the transfer of the property — £250 million this time, about 30 per cent of which will fall empty over the next 15 years and be available, along with the properties already unused, for redevelopment.

The parties will also bid in what they will charge annually, a figure easily expected to top £100 million, to maintain the properties and provide cleaning, catering and security services — this last is especially important. Have you ever wondered why the chairs in DSS offices are bolted to the floor?

Further cost savings identified over the 20 years of the contract

will be split between Government and contractor, on a percentage basis that will be an element of the three bids. The imponderables are how much of the £3 billion-plus running costs at the DSS can be cut, and how much of the savings will go to the taxpayer. As important is the Group Four factor — the contractors must be efficient, and be seen to be so.

Labour is putting up some cosmetic Parliamentary questions next Monday about job losses. But the party is not inimical to the idea. Tony Blair is himself no fan of the public sector unions.

Patience may be good for you

□ GUINNESS seems to have adopted the company's quality control guidance as part of its corporate strategy. It takes time, as any properly trained publican will tell you, to pour a decent pint of Guinness stout properly. It is taking time, Tony Greener tells the City, for the quality of the business to show through.



Guinness is, of course, only suffering from the same malaise as the other drinks companies — declining volumes in the mature Western markets and consequent vicious competition. But the fact that it is more focused than any of its main rivals — normally seen as a virtue in these post-conglomerate days — has, strangely, exaggerated the market's negative sentiment.

Allied Domecq remains in a mess, with its management likely to reap the rewards of any improvement in performance. Grand Metropolitan is also working hard at tidying up — although in the spirits business it has stolen a march on its rivals by increasing its marketing spend earlier in the cycle.

Guinness's apparent lack of options, other than sitting tight and praying, was highlighted last summer by the fiasco of the GrandMet bid that never was but still managed to leak into the press and the market. Recent rumours linking Mr Greener and his gang with Matthew Clark, the troubled cider company, appear little more than wishful thinking, highlighting the absence of suitable acquisition targets elsewhere.

But there is some logic in the company's claim that more of the same will eventually lead to an upturn in profits. The gradual shift in spirit sales away from the mature Western markets should soon be seen as these markets no longer act as a drag on volume growth, and Guinness is especially strong in the Asia-Pacific region that already contributes around one-third of all group profits.

Until the company reaps the rewards of its emerging market exposure, the company has the cash to keep shareholders sweet through rising dividends and even share buy-backs if the management so decides. The problem is

the City, unlike the dancing man in the famous adverts, may have better things to do with its money in the meantime.

High season for poachers

□ SOMETIMES it is better to shut the stable door quietly again rather than head off into the empty fields clutching a halter. The battles between the Horlicks and their employers will provide little except ammunition for critics of high City pay.

This is the poaching season in the Square Mile, just after the year-end bonuses are paid. Nicola Horlick seems to have misjudged the timing, as Deutsche Morgan Grenfell has yet to hand the cash over and she is going to have to whistle for hers.

Her husband Tim made his move last summer, and the cheque in his case could be heading the other way. Kleinwort Benson is suing for an amount that appears to be designed more as a punishment, *pour décourager les autres*, than as compensation for

any damage he may or may not have done. A court case has already required the handing back of some information that seems to have left Fenchurch Street with him.

His wife is not going to stay between jobs for long, even if the affair leaves some doubt over her loyalty to any future employer. Morgan Grenfell, embroiled last year in its own legal action over alleged poaching of staff from ING Barings, is in no position to adopt a lofty moral position.

If poaching is inevitable, and it always will be in a high-flier culture where loyalty is owed only to the last pay packet, perhaps the City's fund managers, brokers and merchant banks should lay down some ground-rules between themselves. Theft of staff while you are still under the same roof as them is clearly not on. Theft of staff after you have left is to be expected.

Attempts to damage your former employer while working elsewhere, for example by using information improperly acquired, will be met with punitive court action, unless it is in the normal course of business. Otherwise, anything goes. The winners, under such rules, will be employers who create a culture of staff loyalty through longer-term incentives than this year's bonus cheque.

AMR lifts quarter's earnings by \$32m

BY JON ASHWORTH
AMERICAN AIRLINES, parent company of American Airlines, lifted fourth quarter net earnings to \$122 million from \$90 million in the same period in 1995. The results take AMR's full-year 1996 earnings, excluding special items, to \$894 million, compared with \$551 million in 1995.

Fourth-quarter results were boosted by a \$497 million gain on the initial public offering of the SABRE Group, a collection of IT companies that includes AMR's ticketing and reservations system. The gain was partially offset by a \$251 million charge associated with AMR's investment in Canadian Airlines.

AMR recorded a \$26 million charge against writting down the value of aircraft interiors. Including special items, 1996 net earnings were \$1 billion (\$662 million), or \$11.63 (\$2.11) per common share. Robert Crandall, chairman of chief executive of AMR, did not comment on the proposed alliance with British Airways, which threatens to cement the carrier's dominance of UK-US air routes. The two airlines recently filed for anti-trust immunity for the alliance. BA is due to publish its third quarter results next month, its tenth anniversary as a privatised company.

Meanwhile, the European Commission has threatened to fine KLM and Northwest for failing to provide details of their alliance. The move follows claims by American and BA that the Commission has unfairly singled them out over their proposed alliance. BA says none of the alliances between US and European airlines has been examined.

The Commission is studying the competition implications of various alliances, including KLM-Northwest. United has linked with Lufthansa and SAS, and Delta has tied with Swissair.

Retailers report mixed Christmas trading results

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

RETAILERS sent out contrasting messages about Christmas trading yesterday. The Body Shop revealed a dip in sales and Kingfisher reported a successful Christmas, with Comet and B&Q its star performers.

The latest batch of Christmas trading statements, which were also issued by Alders and Laura Ashley, confirmed that for most retailers the expected festive boom failed to materialise, with only a handful enjoying an outstanding season.

Concord Rodick, chairman of the Body Shop, said that worldwide, comparable sales

were down 2 per cent in the ten weeks to January 4 and were flat in the first 11 months of the current year. These figures were mirrored by its UK stores. In the US, comparable sales were down 2 per cent in the Christmas period, and 3 per cent over the 44 weeks, while in Asia like-for-like sales were 4 per cent ahead over the 44 weeks but 4 per cent behind over Christmas.

Mr Rodick said that the slowdown in Asia reflects "softer seasonal trading in a number of territories". But he added that total sales growth continues to be fuelled by the strong expansion programme

in Asia; this pushed overall sales in the region up by 49 per cent over 44 weeks. Body Shop shares slipped 4½p to 191p.

At Kingfisher, Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive, reported a rise of 7.8 per cent in comparable sales. At Comet, the electrical goods retailer, they were 14 per cent ahead, while at B&Q, the DIY market leader, they rose 10.5 per cent.

Woolworths, benefiting from the refitting of some stores, enjoyed an 8.1 per cent rise in like-for-like sales. Kingfisher shares slipped 15½p to 654½p, as profit-taking ended a strong run. Sir Geoffrey said that the good Christmas meant the group was on track to achieve its targets for the year.

Christmas sales were 3 per cent ahead at Laura Ashley in the six weeks to January 4, with the UK showing a 10 per cent rise in like-for-like sales. Worldwide, comparable sales were 1 per cent higher for the 23 weeks to January 4. In the US, like-for-like sales were up 1 per cent over Christmas, while over the 23-week period they were down 7 per cent.

Among smaller retailers, Alders reported that like-for-like sales were 11.6 per cent ahead of last year. QS Holdings, the discount clothing retailer, said that it enjoyed 7 per cent growth in like-for-like sales in the second half of the year, despite weaker sales in December.



Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy: group on track to achieve targets

Temps, page 26

Fall for East Midlands

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

EAST MIDLANDS Electricity, which is being taken over by Dominion Resources, the US utility, saw half-year pre-tax profits fall to £80 million from £96.7 million.

In common with all of the regional electricity companies, East Midlands blamed the drop for the six months to September 30 on the impact of

the latest distribution price review. Its comparable figures for 1995 were also flattered by an £8 million gain from the sale of non-core businesses.

Profits in the distribution arm fell from £80.7 million in 1995 to £68.4 million. Better fortunes in the electricity and gas supply business, where volume grew 3.6 per cent,

helped to offset the knock to distribution. Sales in the competitive market to industrial and commercial users rose nearly 6 per cent.

The financial results, originally due last month, were delayed pending the agreed bid from Dominion. The US company is likely to keep the present management structure.

Irish ship line hit by Bell stake

IRISH Continental Group, the shipping company that operates between the Republic of Ireland, the UK and continental Europe, suffered a slight fall in pre-tax profits in the year to October largely because of its stake in the troubled Bell Lines freight company (Eileen McCabe writes).

Irish Continental's 25 per cent share of Bell returned a loss of Ir£1.5 million (Ir£760,000 profit the previous year). Irish Continental also made an exceptional provision of Ir£1.6 million against a loan to Bell.

In contrast, Irish Continental recorded a 9 per cent increase in turnover. There is a final dividend of Ir£3.6p a share, due March 27, giving a total dividend of Ir£5.4p, an increase of 20 per cent on the previous year.

Strong pound will hit profits, says Guinness

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

GUINNESS yesterday gave warning that the rising pound could knock £60 million off 1997 profits (See Pennington, this page).

The company said in a trading statement that although there had been no material change in trading outlook, sterling's recent strength against the dollar and European currencies would have a negative effect on profits.

However, Guinness added that hedging activities would have a positive effect of about £15 million on 1996 profits. There would also be a saving in interest charges in 1997, estimated by analysts at about £15 million, because the company has been able to refinance much of its currency debt in shorter-dated maturities at lower interest rates.

Guinness shares drifted down 5p, to 431p, after the



Greener: beer output up

statement. Grand Metropolitan's shares also fell — by 6p to 428½p — with the market worried about the effect of the rising pound on its profits.

Guinness, of which Anthony Greener is executive chairman, said that United Distillers, its spirit division, had raised overall volumes by 1 per cent, with

growth strongest in single malts and premium Scotch blends. United Distillers also succeeded in raising prices by an average of 1.5 per cent — with 3 per cent increases achieved in the US, the UK, and Latin America — enabling the division to maintain overall profits. United Distillers raised its investment costs by 10 per cent over the year.

Guinness Brewing Worldwide raised beer volumes by 2 per cent and achieved an increase in overall profits, the company said. Sales of Guinness stout grew by 5 per cent, and Kilkenny Irish Ale, the company's new smoothbrow product, made a strong start.

The beer market remained difficult in Spain, with volumes 4 per cent down and margins hit by a shift to cheaper take-home brands. However, Guinness said Cruzcampo, its Spanish subsidiary, should maintain its profits contribution.

THINKING OF SETTING UP YOUR OWN BUSINESS?
GET THE FACTS YOU NEED FREE FROM LLOYDS BANK.

If you're setting up a new business, get in touch with Lloyds Bank. You can feel more sure of success when you can rely on getting the kind of information and support your business needs.

By listening to what our customers want, we've developed a range of business services to help people like you.

For example, your first year's banking is free.* We can provide ways of helping with book-keeping, sales prospecting and debt collection. And if you need extra finance we can talk about how a starter loan at an attractive fixed interest rate could help.

Take your first step now — calling us won't commit you to anything, and it will get you the highly-acclaimed Small Business Guide, published by Penguin. This handbook to starting and running a business has already sold over 500,000 copies. It costs £16 in the shops, but we'll send you a copy completely free when you call us or return the coupon below.

Call us on 0345 00 33 77, for details of the Lloyds Bank start-up package and your Small Business Guide. Or send the coupon below to: Lloyds Bank Business Service, Dept GWC, FREEPOST SN520, Swindon SN38 9JA.

*New business customers with an anticipated first year banking turnover of up to £1 million receive banking free of account transaction charges whether in credit or overdraft.

Call us at local rates on 0345 00 33 77 now for your start-up information and FREE Small Business Guide.

Please quote reference 22 0001. The offer is only available to UK residents.

YES, I'd like to know more about how Lloyds Bank can help me set up my own business. Please send me my start-up information and FREE Small Business Guide.

Name _____ What type of business are you planning? _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Contact telephone number (inc STD code): _____

Daytime _____ Evening _____

Please fill in and return to: Lloyds Bank Business Service, Dept GWC, FREEPOST SN520, Swindon SN38 9JA.

Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS

Facts about 07000 Personal Numbers

- One number in seven changes every year — 3 million numbers disappear each year!
- A personal number is a telephone number that you can keep and still direct your callers to any number you choose.
- You don't pay for using your personal number with a standard number. The only subscription is one number for your home.
- Share a number for a short time with a Personal Number.
- Share a number for a short time with a Personal Number.
- Share a number for a short time with a Personal Number.

call us now 07000 707070 trade enquiries 07000 654321

Tele-Cine warning follows defections

BY FRASER NELSON

THE DEFECTION of the core creative team from Tele-Cine Cell has left a larger than expected hole in its profits, the television production company said yesterday.

While the six executives who left in May have been replaced, Tele-Cine said that many key clients had followed them and left a serious dent in summer profits. It gave warning that the recovery was taking much longer than the City expected.

Its shares lost 30 per cent of their value yesterday, tumbling from 52½p to a new low of 37½p, before closing at 40p.

Nick Igoe, finance director, said that while the final dividend would be below the 3.7p issued last time, the company would be unlikely to pass on the dividend altogether.

Most members of the special effects team which resigned have since joined The Mill, a rival studio that was rumoured to be moving into films. The team's credits include the paint-splashing BBC2 logo and the Guinness advertisement that takes its viewers from a pint glass to outer space and back to the pint.

During 1995, Tele-Cine returned a 39 per cent decline in pre-tax profits, to £1.4 million. Analysts are looking for the same figure for 1996, but Tele-Cine gave warning that the results, due in March, would show profits "materially below" this figure.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Strength of the pound hits Guinness for £60m

BIG overseas earners suffered as the extent of the damage to profits arising from sterling's strength became apparent.

The pessimism followed a trading update from Guinness down 5p at 431p, which warned the market that it expected to take a £60 million hit on its currency transactions during 1997. The blame was placed squarely on sterling, which has accrued in value against the dollar and other European currencies. This makes Guinness less competitive abroad and vulnerable to currency losses once trading profits are translated back into sterling.

The problem could become worse if the Chancellor raises interest rates. This could attract more foreign investors to the pound and in turn drive sterling even higher. Most big companies hedge their currency needs on the futures market, but the pound's recent meteoric rise may have caught them out.

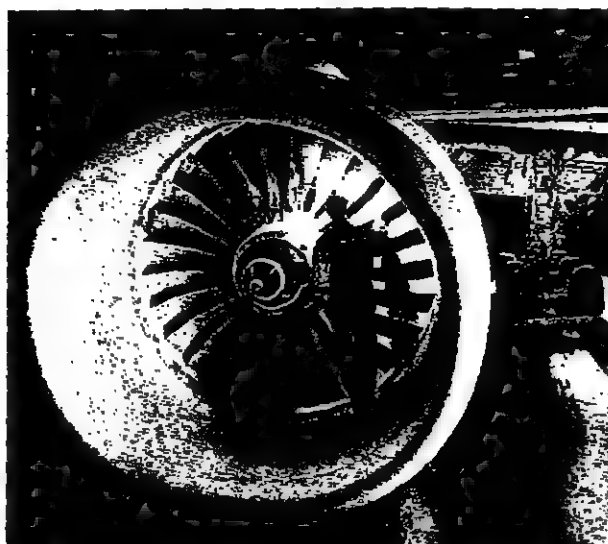
Other companies deemed to suffer include Reuters, down 21p at 232p. Rolls-Royce, 9p off at 232p, and Smiths Industries, 17p lower at 760p.

The rest of the equity market enjoyed an early mark-up, enabling it to extend this week's record-breaking run on the back of a strong performance by Wall Street overnight. But the gains were not held and prices soon went into reverse as investors waited to see if the Chancellor would raise interest rates after his monthly economic meeting with the Governor of the Bank of England.

After a near 44-point turnaround, the FT-SE 100 index was able to close above the worst of the day with the help of a late run in the futures market. The index finished 9.3 down at 4,158.9 as turnover reached 882 million shares.

The banks enjoyed another sharp mark-up with the help of positive comments from several brokers. Stock shares only fuelled the gains. Standard Chartered rose 33p to 744p on a buy recommendation from SBC Warburg, the broker. Merrill Lynch likes the sector, as does Lehman Brothers and HSBC James Capel.

The strong rise in share prices overnight in Hong Kong supported HSBC, up 40p at £14.26. Royal Bank of Scotland also extended this week's lead with a rise of 4p at 567p.



Fear of sterling's rise drove Rolls-Royce down 9p

Cookson rose 7p to 260p on the back of a big jump in profits from Intel, the US microchip manufacturer. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, has pointed out that the shares are at a 10 per cent discount to the market.

Revived bid talk lifted Zeneca 29p to £16.53. JP Morgan, the US investment bank, was pushing Roche

holdings in any one investment restricted to 20 per cent. The shares finished 12p down at £15.50.

Frankie Detton's record seven consecutive wins at Ascot in September has cost Stanley Leisure, the betting and gaming group, dearly. The company described it as the "worst day ever" costing an estimated £2 million. Even

with overall sales up 11.7 per cent at £1.46 billion.

Adders also warned of news of buoyant trading conditions with a rise of 8p at 168p. Trading profits were running "substantially" ahead of last year.

It was a different story for Anita Roddick's Body Shop, which dipped 4p to 19p after a lukewarm response by brokers to the group's trading statement.

A 3 per cent increase in like-for-like sales at Laura Ashley over the Christmas period failed to make much impression, with the shares ending 1p easier at 158p.

Profit-taking in the wake of Tuesday's trading news left Matthew Clark 18p lower at 314p. Profit-taking also left its mark on Secure Retirement after a reverse takeover by Southampton Football Club.

The shares finished the session 11p lower at 138p. A profits warning left Tele-Cine Cell Group nursing a fall of 13p at 40p.

Penny-stock Ransome stood out with a rise of 7p to 87p in response to a bullish trading statement.

The specialist engineer is hoping to live up to City expectations despite losses at two discontinued operations. Wistrust also responded to news of a profits increase at the halfway stage with a rise of 2p at 337p. A doubling of profits to £1.29 million in the first six months of the year at Dudley Jenkins was rewarded with a rise of 21p at 224p.

GILT-EDGED: Longer dated issues continued to outperform the short end of the market amid growing hopes that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, will peg interest rates after Monday's modest rise in factory gate prices.

After a subdued start prices moved higher after publication of the latest unemployment and average earnings numbers. But the gains were never held.

The March series of the long gilt rose five ticks to £109.92 as a total of 77,000 contracts were completed.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 finished 1/4 better at £103.4, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was unchanged at £103.1.

NEW YORK: Profit-taking after Tuesday's rally and renewed softness in the bond market dragged down shares and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 43.49 points lower at 6,718.80.

overnight amid suggestions that the latter might move to bid for Zeneca.

Laurea Trust, the recent high flyer, is expected to drop like a stone when trading resumes this morning. Last night the group issued a statement saying it knew of no reason for the sharp rise in the price during the past few months. It intended to remain an investment company with

so, pre-tax profits came in at the top end of expectations with a rise of 21 per cent at £7.4 million. The shares rose 21p to 297p.

An upbeat trading statement from K&Q and Comet retailer, lived up to expectations, but profit-taking left the price 15p down at 655p. Lloyds-like sales in the nine weeks to January 4 grew almost 8 per

cent.

REUTERS: UNSETTLED BY STRONG POUND

Share price (rebased)

FT-SE all-share index (rebased)

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

COMMODITIES

ICE-ICE (London 0.0000)

CRUDE OIL (\$/barrel FOB)

PRODUCTS (\$/MT)

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

ONE LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (0.0000)

BARLEY (0.0000)

POTATO (0.0000)

BEANS (0.0000)

SOYBEAN (0.0000)

WHEAT (0.0000)

BARLEY (0.0000)

POTATO (0.0000)

BEANS (0.0000)

SOYBEAN (0.0000)

WHEAT (0.0000)

BARLEY (0.0000)

FTSE 100

FTSE 250

Three Month Sterling

Three Month Euro Yen

Three Month Euro DM

Long Gilt

German Gov Bd Bond

Three Month ECU

Euro Swiss Franc

Italian Govt Bond

Japanese Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

FTSE 100

FTSE 250

Three Month Sterling

Three Month Euro Yen

Three Month Euro DM

Long Gilt

German Gov Bd Bond

Three Month ECU

Euro Swiss Franc

Italian Govt Bond

Japanese Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

FTSE 100

FTSE 250

Three Month Sterling

Three Month Euro Yen

Three Month Euro DM

Long Gilt

German Gov Bd Bond

Three Month ECU

Euro Swiss Franc

Italian Govt Bond

Japanese Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

FTSE 100

FTSE 250

Three Month Sterling

Three Month Euro Yen

Three Month Euro DM

Long Gilt

German Gov Bd Bond

Three Month ECU

Euro Swiss Franc

Italian Govt Bond

Japanese Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

FTSE 100

FTSE 250

Three Month Sterling

Three Month Euro Yen

Three Month Euro DM

Long Gilt

German Gov Bd Bond

Three Month ECU

Euro Swiss Franc

Italian Govt Bond

Japanese Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

US Govt Bond

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 9718.80 (+43.49)
S&P Composite 765.66 (+3.33)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average Closed
Hang Seng 13766.65 (+472.78)

Hong Kong:
BSE Index 664.67 (+3.04)
Sydney:
ASX 2638.2 (+18.8)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2988.45 (+39.57)
Brussels:
General 11101.85 (+78.40)

Paris:
CAC-40 2387.06 (+14.18)
Zurich:
SIX 857.80 (+1.48)

London:
FT 30 2781.3 (+23.5)
FT 100 4158.9 (+9.3)
FTSE Mid 250 4500.0 (+2.8)

FTSE 100: 4158.9 (+9.3)
FTSE 250: 4500.0 (+2.8)
FTSE All-Share: 2000.16 (+2.4)
FT Non Financials: 2000.16 (+2.4)

FT Financials: 116.27 (+0.33)
FT Govt Secs: 94.52 (+0.22)
Barracuda: 52.60
EAG Venture: 1.0700 (+0.0100)

German Mark: 2.6675 (+0.0003)
Exchange Index: 96.3 (+0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
BSE 100: 1.7802

CSDR: 1.7802
RPI: 153.9 Nov (2.7%) and 1987-1990
RPI: 153.7 Nov (3.3%) and 1987-1990

RECENT ISSUES

Aquarius 174%
BZW Endowment Red 54%
Cadence 270%
Enterprise Veni Cap 93%

Episcopi Network 35%
GB Railways 267%
Hardy Underwear 175%
Highams Sys Svs 149%
Necall 46%

Oxford Biomedica 60%
Parkwood Holdings 74%
Pilot Technologies 59%
Sunderland 732%
Sutton Harbour 132%

West Brom Albion £250
RIGHTS ISSUES

Compel Gp n/p (100) 3%
Fisher n/p (120) 16%
Preston n/p (180) 51%
Prism Rail n/p (330) 19%
RPC n/p (142) 5%

Shafesbury n/p (137) 33%
Wicks n/p (150) 20%
MAJOR CHANGES

RSBS
Group 182p (+1.0p)
Dudley Jenkins 224p (+2.0p)
Stanley Leisure 237p (+2.0p)
Concorde 198p (+1.0p)
V. Nichol 198p (+1.0p)

Druck 290p (+1.0p)
R. Vardy 334p (+1.0p)
Acom Comp 193p (+1.0p)
General 317p (+1.0p)

FALLS:
Selected App 382p (-3.0p)
Secure Petrol 138p (-1.0p)
Hedgwick 307p (-2.0p)
BS Group 152p (-1.0p)
Huntleigh Tech 200p (-1.0p)

Matthew Clark 314p (-1.0p)
Real Time 840p (-1.0p)
Lloyds 111p (-1.0p)
Reid 982p (-2.0p)
GKN 940p (-2.0p)

Prohibition 431p (-1.0p)
Smiths Ind 780p (-1.0p)
Closing Prices Page 30

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso 1.6724-1.6731
Australia dollar 1.5159-1.5166
Belgium franc 6.5400-6.5400

Canada dollar 1.7499-1.7504
China yuan 8.2750-8.2750
Czech koruna 16.5000-16.5000

Denmark krone 6.4603-6.4603
Euro 1.0000-1.0000
Hong Kong dollar 7.7500-7.7500

India rupee 47.8345-47.8345
Japanese yen 136.0000-136.0000
New Zealand dollar 1.6200-1.6200

South African rand 6.6000-6.6000
Swedish krona 4.6600-4.6600
Swiss franc 1.4500-1.4500

Thai baht 54.8000-54.8000
US dollar 1.0000-1.0000
UK pound 1.0000-1.0000

US dollar 1.0000-1.0000
UK pound 1.0000-1.0000
US dollar 1.0000-1.0000

TEMPUS

Unreal estate

COULD we be headed for a spate of rights issues from property companies? Share prices in the sector are racing ahead of net asset values (NAV), offering, in theory, an easy way to raise cash without diluting shareholders' funds.

The FT property share index has risen 28 per cent over the past year, more than twice the rate of growth in the market as a whole. At 1,866, the index should soon exceed its February 1994 peak of 1,879. That share price boom, which took the index up 54 per cent, was occasioned by a flood of rights issues. And there must be some concern that companies will again take advantage of a buoyant share market to demand cash from investors.

Things have changed since the last price surge. In 1993, companies were repairing balance sheets damaged in the property crash of 1990-1992. Funds were needed to repay debt

and institutions swallowed the rationale that falling long-term interest rates made investment property look cheap. Unfortunately, rents failed to advance and the sector returned to the doldrums. Today, the reason to raise equity should be the need to finance a deal.

But good deals are thin on the ground. Like many industries, the property sector is not short of funds, but short of investment opportunities. The share prices of those few companies, such as Burford and Chelsfield, that have generated profitable deals are at premiums of more than 30 per cent to NAV.

But even the sluggish property majors, including Slough Estates, MEPC and Land Securities, boast shares near or above asset value. Such opportunities come rarely and many will be tempted to ask for more.

the corporate strategy of the very multinationals that the company so loves to hate.

Add to that an unfortunate promotion by Anita Roddick of American Express cards and you are left with a retail concept that is anything but youthful. If there is no special reason to buy the products, there is certainly no reason to hold the shares.

Body Shop

THE depressing news from Body Shop yesterday was not another lecture about business ethics from Anita Roddick, nor even its poor sales growth in the Britain.

The bad news comes from the Far East. Body Shop has been flagging Asia as the growth market, but its trading figures suggest otherwise.

In Asia, like-for-like trading in the three weeks to January 4 fell 4 per cent, leaving Asia and continental Europe as Body Shop's worst markets.

Many companies are now plugging "natural" products similar to those pioneered by Body Shop. Yet the latter managed to differentiate itself with campaigns on the environment and business ethics. The company suffered when its credentials

were questioned by ethical investment researchers, but the big blow to Body Shop may be self-imposed.

A decade ago, the company had the air of a cottage industry gone wild. Its style was welcome in dreary high streets. But since then Body Shop has erupted like green trifles across the planet. Their uniformity suggests

ing system is badly needed. Things are so bad that the company begged Steve Jobs, the Apple co-founder who was ousted in 1985, to return as a consultant.

It is too early to predict Apple's demise. The internet is exploding and most Web sites are still created on Macintosh computers. In the medium term, there appears to be a better than equal chance that Apple will start to grow again and if the shares get any weaker, it will undoubtedly become a takeover target.

Stanley Leisure

SIGNS of life at last in the gaming industry, which has suffered heavily since the arrival of the National Lottery. Frankie Detton's once-in-a-lifetime exploits aside, the bookies and casinos are finally beginning to fight back.

Figures from Stanley Leisure yesterday showed that the deregulation measures introduced last year after a

lengthy campaign by the industry — are having the desired effect, with turnover and profitability improving. Stanley has also realised that to survive the bookmakers need to provide more than just horse racing. Innovations such as the "49ers" bet — a fixed-odds punt on the lottery — should help to win new customers.

The industry will face a renewed onslaught from the lottery when it introduces a midweek draw from next month. But the lottery has lost its novelty value, while the gaming industry has gained painful but useful experience in dealing with competition.

Stanley, which remains on the look out for underperforming bookies, should be able to maintain its improved performance over the next six months. But with most of the positive outlook already in the price, this one is a longer-term bet.

EDITED BY CARL MORTIMER

FEWER BODIES IN THE SHOPS

Body Shop share price

FT-SE all-share index (rebased)

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

Sir
fit for

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Irish Budget pointers

ANOTHER Budget bungle after the *Daily Mirror's* leak. Two national dailies in the Irish Republic gave front-page coverage yesterday to a cabinet meeting on the 1997 package.

Unfortunately, anyone who read both papers would have been none the wiser as to what was actually agreed. The *Irish Times* surmised that Ruairi Quinn, Finance Minister, will tell a hushed Dail next Wednesday that the basic rate of income tax is to be cut from 27 to 26 per cent; he will propose no change in the top rate, currently 48 per cent.

Meanwhile, the *Irish Independent* said that ministers agreed to a 2 per cent cut in the basic rate and 1 per cent off the top rate.

DRINKS served to the water regulator at the Trade and Industry Select Committee yesterday were not entirely to his taste. Commenting on the bottle of House of Commons mineral water, Ian Byatt told MPs: "I drink tap water all the time."

Keegan card

WADDINGTON is as unguessed as Newcastle United fans after Kevin Keegan's departure. The games manufacturer has been forced to put plans on hold for the production of thousands of Squads games, which currently contain the Keegan card. The makers of Subbuteo were all set for a new production run in the game to feature the 1996 new signings, including Nigel Clough's return to Nottingham Forest. However, the advice from Waddington is to hold on to the Keegan card — chances are that they will become a collectors' item.

MORGAN GRENFELL

PENSIONS
SUSPENSIONS



Disney dress

BOSSSES at Disneyland are demanding a change of costume. They have banned their experiment to introduce casual attire for administrative employees at the Magic Kingdom. Dress down days are no more: casual loafers and sweaters are out, suits and ties (the "usher look") are back in. Frankie Walters, an image consultant for the Disneyland Resort said "business casual" turned out to be a poor fit for the tradition-bound operation.

Gold barred

TWO bars of gold dore missed their flight to England yesterday. The pair of 45 kilo bars, comprising 90 per cent gold, worth \$450,000 in total, were barred from boarding the plane from Malaysia to Heathrow, because their containers were too big. Instead, Jocelyn Waller, chief executive of Avoca Mining, will be awaiting their arrival at Royston this morning.

AFTER a joint by-line appeared on Tuesday, two City hacks at *The Independent* broke the news yesterday that they are turning their back on the newspaper world. Peter Rodgers, the paper's avuncular financial editor, who worked on both *The Guardian* and *The Sunday Times*, is off to work for the Bank of England. Meanwhile, Jill Treanor, who had only recently arrived, is to join Fleming.

MORAG PRESTON

Labour's utility levy is a fiscal confidence trick



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

people. In any given market, more are consumers. So consumers are the logical focus for political marketing folk. Their logical counterpart, the symbolic enemies of consumers, are "fat cat" directors.

In practice, as employees and investors can testify to their cost, executive directors are the only group immune from assaults made on utilities in the name of consumers. Just as the right-on BBC person said, few will sympathise with the "fat cat" bosses. There is a good reason, they lose nothing. Employees pay the price of regulatory or tax imposts. Once they can be squeezed no more, investors suffer, along with margins for error and thoughts of expansion. If consumer interests prove as short term as anything the City can offer, too bad.

Given that mind-set, there is little objection in principle to a windfall tax. If some industry or group of businesses makes a killing as a result of government action, with no extra effort by employees, investors or even "fat cat" directors, it is fair game to be tapped for a windfall contribution to the Government's (usually depleted) coffers. The Conservatives levied one promptly and carefully after banks profited from a sharp

rise in interest rates. They might have levied North Sea oil companies too, but the tax regime was supposed to do that anyway.

Labour's proposed utility monopolies levy does not appear to be a windfall tax, more a revenge pillage. Who knows? The details of this five-year-old scheme remain confidential, to avoid the criticisms of unfairness they are bound to evoke if trailed before the election. Instead, Labour merely claims to be reclaiming "excess profits" on behalf of taxpayers. How thoughtful. If that means anything, shareholders in British Gas and

British Telecom, still the biggest utilities, should have nothing to fear. Returns since privatisation have been below average. And it is hard to imagine that new Labour would search back in history for temporary "excess" profits made when Tony Blair was a unilateralist and Labour wanted to quit the Common Market. Regardless of a wider legal challenge, 1.7 million of us who still finance British Gas would surely appeal to the European Court of Human Rights against cruel and unusual punishment.

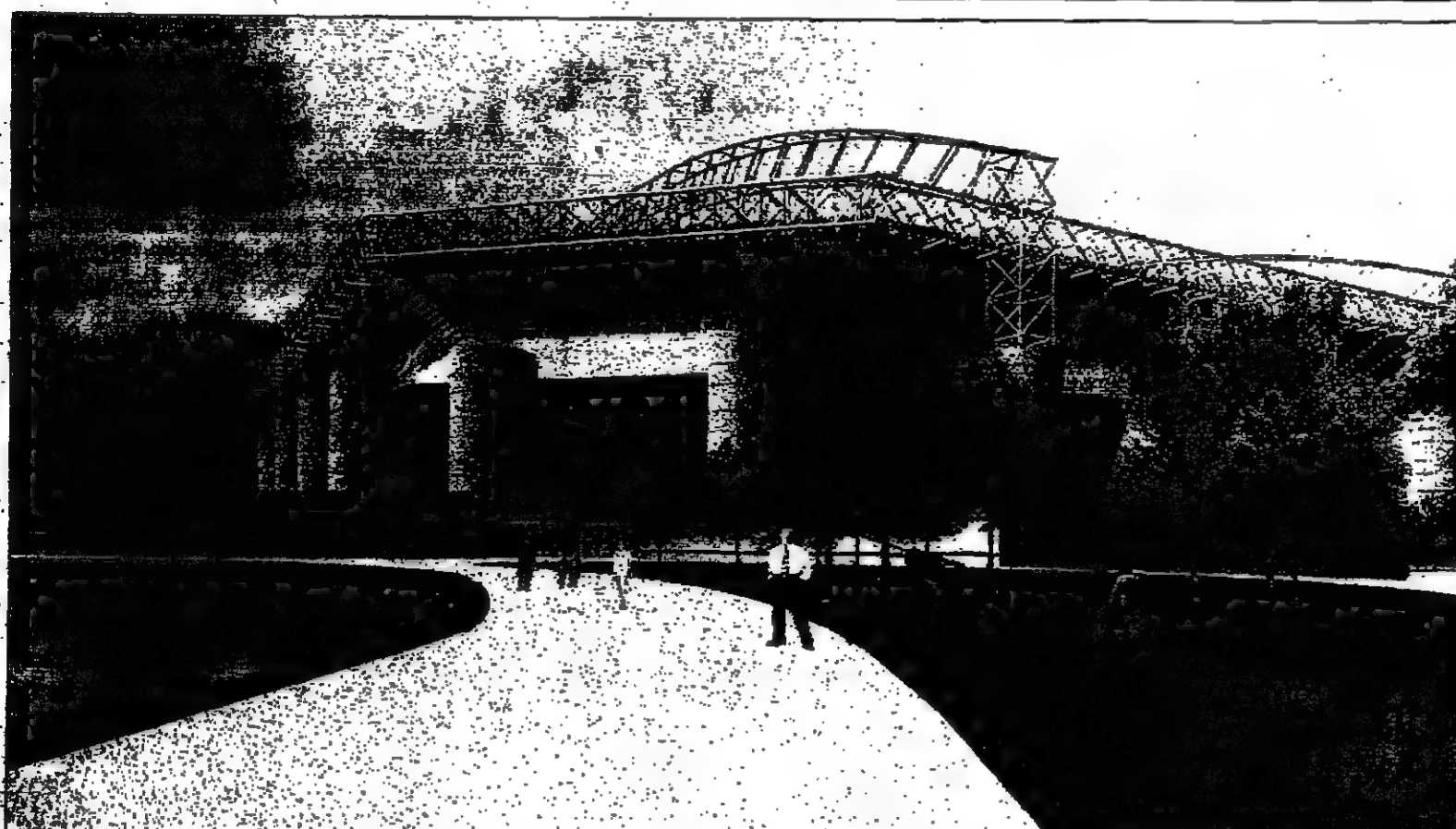
Not so most regional electricity and water monopolies. Investors in the distributors earned about £3.5 billion more profit than they expected because power demand was woefully underestimated in the prospectuses. They gained a similar sum when the National Grid, which they owned as a sort of low-profit co-operative, turned out to be a big profit centre under the new regime.

Both water and electricity companies gained unexpectedly from the RPI-X price formula when inflation fell sharply just after privatisation, though that was before the last general election. Once water and electricity firms were opened to takeover bids in 1995, investors reckoned they could

operate with far less risk-bearing share capital and far more debt than Whitehall or regulators thought prudent. Successful takeover bids for ten of the 12 Rees and two of ten water groups reflected this. Many boards, including those fighting takeovers, offered spare cash to shareholders in spectacular dollops, occasionally more than £500 million at a time. On a more modest scale, fund managers pressed several water companies to pay out unneeded capital, even though most had been saddled with extra obligations not expected at privatisation — expensive rainfall to mop up any windfall.

A windfall tax on Rees and most water companies would have been fair in 1992 or in 1995. Today it is just a fiscal alibi for Gordon Brown. The Shadow Chancellor has never said how much he plans to raise. His minders said it was £3 billion. Now they talk of £5 billion. By the first Brown Budget it could be £7 billion. The levy, supposedly one-off though really in instalments, is expending to cover whatever spending pledges Labour needs to make.

Mr Brown thinks he has found the ideal cash-raising instrument: a tax that does not really count as a tax. But he is wrong. The Tories got there first. Election after election, they financed tax cuts out of privatisation proceeds, or "asset sales", counting them as spurious cuts in public spending. This self-delusion contributed to the dubious public finances Mr Brown would inherit. But he would go one further, levying privatisation proceeds without selling anything at all. Even fewer would be fooled this time.



An artist's impression of the Castle Leazes stadium in Newcastle which is expected to cost the Premiership club £65 million and seat 55,000 fans

Sir John and the Castle fit for the faithful army

The monetary goalposts are forever moving in the race to develop stadiums, says Jason Nissé

Among the crowd of supporters gathered in shock around St James's Park last Wednesday, when Kevin Keegan's resignation as Newcastle United manager was announced, were a dozen or so environmental protesters. They held banners saying "Save the Moor" and "No building at Castle Leazes" in a protest to stop plans by The Toon, as the club is called in Newcastle, to put up a £65 million new stadium just a few hundred yards up the road from the club's existing home.

Sir John Hall, the property developer who has revitalised Newcastle, sees the building of the Castle Leazes stadium as the crowning achievement of his five years at the club. St James's Park sells out its 25,000 capacity every match, and the Toon army is expected to fill the 55,000-seat Castle Leazes with ease.

To pay for the stadium, Sir John is floating the club on the stock market. And to float the club, the issue of a manager who had twice threatened to resign became critical. In other words, Castle Leazes became bigger than Kevin Keegan.

Castle Leazes is just one of a whole flurry of stadiums which are being, have been or are about to be built in the UK. In the North East, both Middlesbrough and Sunderland, whose chairman is Bob Murray, have new stadiums. Derby County is moving from the Baseball Ground to a new home, and there is the McAlpine stadium in Huddersfield. Add to this the new national stadium in Cardiff and, of course, the redevelopment of Wembley.

Most top-flight football clubs have new stadiums, such as the North Bank at Arsenal, the stadium in Highbury, the new tier to the north stand at Old Trafford for Manchester United or the proposed redevelopment of Bramall Lane, Sheffield United's home. The total cost of stadium work in this country will exceed £1 billion during this decade.

But a burning issue is concentrating the minds of all the experts on stadium building. Why is Castle Leazes costing so much? New stands are reckoned to cost between £700 and £1,500 per person to build, depending on the amenities, such as catering, executive boxes and the like,

and on particular planning problems, such as access in the case of Arsenal.

New stadiums are less expensive. Sunderland's new ground will house 40,000 but is costing just £16.5 million. Middlesbrough paid £16 million for the Riverside stadium which houses 30,000, and the McAlpine cost £14.5 million for 20,000 seats. The only stadiums apparently costing as much per seat are the new Ajax ground in Amsterdam, costing £80 million for 50,000 seats, and the national stadium in Cardiff, which will have 75,000 seats at a cost of £90 million. But both have retractable roofs, an expensive luxury not needed for the hardy Geordies. The issue of the expense is something Newcastle's property director, Russell Jones, who happens to also work for Sir John Hall's Cameron Hall Developments, has

been reluctant to discuss in the run-up to the club's float.

Ernest Atherden, founder of Atherden & Fuller, architects, whose work includes Old Trafford and Liverpool's ground at Anfield, says the Taylor report into stadium safety, which followed the 1989 Hillsborough disaster, brought a sea change in stadium development. Lord Justice Taylor insisted on all-seater grounds, which pushed up the cost per person of the stands and ticket prices.

These costs are expected to rise further when new regulations about the safety of stadium design are agreed. Currently the rules say there must be a minimum of 610mm between seats — which is pretty cramped as anyone who has visited Wembley or Old Trafford, where the gap is close to the minimum, will

testify. Rod Sheard, chairman of the Lobb Partnership, which designed the McAlpine, the new Welsh national stadium and Highbury's North Bank, is on the committee working on the new norm and expects the new Central European Norm to be set at 750mm. "That is a reasonable minimum. We build to 800mm unless the client tells us otherwise."

The costs are also pushed up by the speed at which stadiums and stands have to be built. Clubs do not like to close parts of their ground while stands are being rebuilt. And if they are selling their old stadium for redevelopment — as Southampton and Sunderland are — they want to vacate the old site as soon as possible. Ballast Wiltshire cut its teeth on the redevelopment of St James's Park, where it built the Sir John Hall stand in just 21 weeks to be ready for the club's Premiership debut.

Dave Watson, chief executive of Ballast Wiltshire, admits the builder was under a great deal of pressure from Newcastle. "The Spurs situation [when the first match of the season was postponed because building work was not finished at White Hart Lane] is something everyone in the football industry was well aware of and wanted to avoid." As supporters have been forced to pay more they are expecting more amenities.

"The days when you came to a ground, stood in the rain and had a pie and a pint for refreshment have all gone," says Mr Atherden.

Mr Sheard argues this provides a great opportunity for clubs. "If these extra amenities bring more than £50 per person per year in profit then the new development will pay for itself. The days when a stadium is a drain on its owners are long gone; now they are profit centres."

Clubs have been quick to spot the opportunities. At Manchester United the museum and Red Cafe bring in fans on non-match days and the restaurant at the Gallowgate end of St James's Park was recently listed in the *Good Food Guide*. They are also

looking at using the grounds for other sports, notably rugby. Until recently worries about churning up the pitch surface, as happened when Leeds United shared Elland Road with the Hunslet rugby league club, made ground-sharing difficult. But new grass technology is changing things — so that more than 100 matches of both football and rugby were played at the McAlpine last season without any problem.

The increased usage of the stadiums, and their place in the community, has brought a rethink of where they are sited. The fashion in the 1970s and 1980s, largely coming from the US, was for out-of-town stadiums with massive car parking. But this has backfired, with many of these stadiums becoming white elephants. The recent trend, worldwide, is to build stadiums in central locations, as in Melbourne and Wellington, New Zealand, where both cities looked at half a dozen sites for new stadiums and chose the ones nearest the centre of town.

Mr Watson says: "It is much better to have stadiums within the city, supported by good public transport. This is much more environmentally satisfactory." In other words the world is realising the British type of stadiums are the best. "The charm of the British stadium is that it is as much part of the community as the local pub, church or town hall," said Mr Sheard. Long may it continue.

City resumes the chase after deal over Hebron

Renewed stability could help to lure Israeli pics here, says Adam Jones

The deal between Binyamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat over the future of Hebron, the West Bank town, revives hopes for a less strained peace in Israel.

The stability it hints at is vital to Israel's international businesses and the British financiers hoping to woo them to London.

Traditionally Israeli companies looking for overseas capital went to Wall Street, even though the two-hour time difference between London and Tel Aviv gives Britain an advantage.

After John Major's visit to Israel in 1995, the City made a sustained attempt to become a serious alternative to New York.

It recognised the economic surge attending peace in the Middle East. This "swords to ploughshares" momentum was helped by massive immigration of skilled workers from the former Soviet Union. The result was a fast-developing economy with a disproportionate strength in hi-tech.

The first Israeli company to go for a London quote duly came from this sector. Dmatak, which joined the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) in December 1995, has adapted military technology for peacetime use. Its products include an electronic tagging system to keep prisoners under house arrest. The shares started at 75p and now languish at about 63p.

Five companies followed in 1996. SEA Multimedia, BATM Advance Communications, Selector, Geo Interactive and Pilot Technology all joined the AIM — enough for it to be dubbed the Alternative Israeli Market by some.

The companies have generally not enjoyed much of a welcome from London investors, who are more cautious about hi-tech than Wall Streeters.

One flotation that could have swayed committed Israeli-sceptics was a victim of spectacularly unfortunate timing. Last October Plasson, an injection-moulded plastics company and market leader owned by a kibbutz near Tel Aviv, was due to become the first Israeli listing on the main market.

However, four days before Plasson's flotation was due to close, a controversial tunnel project in Jerusa-

lem's Old City led to armed combat between Palestinian police and Israeli soldiers.

Plasson had raised £21 million, enough to proceed, but £7 million was withdrawn after the civil unrest.

The float had to be postponed. Now, Plasson is unlikely to reapproach the market and more than one UK company wants to buy a stake, providing the capital for international expansion originally sought from a listing.

The float's failure was a political embarrassment for Israel, provoking concern in the Knesset, the Israeli parliament. But it also threatened the City's campaign to woo Israeli companies away from their usual preference for New York.

After the clashes in October, a high-profile campaign to improve awareness of London's attractions in Israel was scaled down by one law firm involved in AIM floats. Even so, two of the six Israeli companies on the AIM joined after the disturbances. Geo Interactive and Pilot Technology made their debut in mid-October and December respectively.

Edgar Millar, of the Israel-Britain Business Council, says the disturbances had little effect, either on London's role as a source of capital for Israel or on joint ventures involving British companies.

He maintains the peace process will not be halted, despite recent volatility. "Serious businessmen who are interested in doing business in Israel don't let this sort of short-term tribulation bother them."

While a recent slowing of economic growth should improve the stock market in Israel, previously hampered by very high interest rates, Mr Millar says domestic listings will not replace the international hunt for capital.

With the Hebron deal concluded, the many Israeli companies still wanting to float on the AIM should face less suspicion about the country's political stability.

However, they will still have to overcome suspicions about the market itself. Some feel there are too many one-brick ponies or just plain weird stocks on the AIM. A hitch, foreign background may work against Israel's pioneer pics if the mood turns nasty.

Affordable Healthcare

FREephone QUOTING REF B11/DL03

0500 669966

FOR YOUR PROTECTION CALLS WILL USUALLY BE RECORDED AND RANDOMLY MONITORED

Lifetime HealthCare

Legal & General

RJB wins approval for share buyback

By Oliver August

RJB MINING, the successor to British Coal in England, won shareholder approval yesterday to buy up to 5 per cent of its own shares. The move comes after a considerable share price decline in the wake of a profit downgrade by BZW, its brokers, last month.

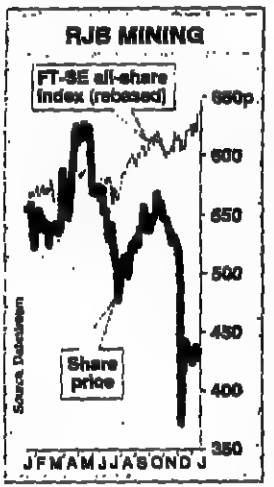
BZW predicted that Britain's largest independent coal producer would face an extremely difficult two years. RJB's buyback decision was aimed at countering the share price slide through an estimated 4 per cent increase in earnings per share.

But yesterday's move did not prevent a further slide in the share price, from 427.5p to 416.5p. Before the BZW downgrade the shares had stood at 485p.

The buyback will stretch to the limit the company's jurisdiction for buying back its shares after a 504 million repurchase last July. Companies may only buy a maximum of 10 per cent of their own shares in a full year.

The extraordinary meeting passed a resolution giving RJB the authority to purchase up to 8,560,000 ordinary shares.

RJB is facing further difficulties in two years when its contracts with electricity generators to buy British coal run out. Renegotiations are expected to be tough as price pressure has become more intense since the privatisation of the generators.



Mike Kershaw, right, chief executive of Stanley Leisure, and John Whittaker, who runs the racing division, promoting the new fixed-odds bet

Stanley Leisure eases lottery worries with 21% profits lift

By Alasdair Murray

STANLEY LEISURE gave notice yesterday that gaming companies are finally fighting back against the National Lottery when it unveiled a 21 per cent increase, to £7.4 million, in half-year profits — well above City expectations.

Leonard Steinberg, chairman, said that deregulation measures in the bookmaking and casino industries were helping to stimulate recovery.

The improvement came in spite of the company suffering a £2 million loss in profits from the record seven winners

ridden by the jockey, Frankie Dettori, at Ascot in the autumn.

Mr Steinberg added that trading had continued strongly since the end of the first half and that the company had only lost a small amount of turnover during the Christmas freeze. But he issued a note of caution about the potential impact of the introduction of the midweek lottery draw next month.

Mr Steinberg's positive comments, coupled with a 20 per cent rise in the interim dividend to 1.2p, helped shares to rise 21p, closing at 297.5p.

Overall turnover rose 28 per cent, to £210 million, with the company also bearing costs of £340,000 from the reorganisation of Gus Carter, which was acquired last June.

The bookmakers recently introduced the "49s" bet — a daily fixed-odds bet against a lottery draw — to continue the fight back against the lottery. Mr Steinberg said that the new bet had made a "steady" start, although he added that the real test would come with

the introduction of the midweek National Lottery draw.

Profits in the racing division rose by 43 per cent, to £4 million, with turnover increasing by 31 per cent, to £189 million, owing to the inclusion of Gus Carter. On a like-for-like basis turnover rose by 3 per cent. Stanley said that the introduction of betting machines into bookmakers had been particularly successful, adding around £1.5 million to profits.

The casino division increased profits by 12 per cent, to £5.2 million, with an 8 per cent rise in turnover to £20.3 million. An increase in the number of amusement machines in casinos ensured a 65 per cent rise in machine takings. But the company gave warning that casino margins had been eroded as a result of customers becoming more knowledgeable about the games on offer and managing their money more effectively.

The interim dividend is payable on February 21.

Times, page 26

Bright future for fund managers, says study

By Our Business Staff

THE UK fund management industry, managing an estimated £2 trillion at the end of 1996, is well placed to enlarge its role as a leading global financial centre, a report from British Invisibles shows.

The privately sponsored body said the UK had strong international orientation, a skilled labour force and a liberal operating environment that would help British companies to gain from future developments in fund

management, "particularly in international markets where growth prospects look strongest".

The industry contributes £27 billion, or 0.4 per cent of GDP, to the UK economy and employs 35,000 people.

London ranks as the second largest city by value of domestic institutional equity portfolios, second only to Tokyo, with American funds spread across a number of centres.

Norwich names chief

By MARIANNE CURPHEY, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

NORWICH UNION, the mutual insurer preparing for flotation this summer, has announced that Richard Harvey, group finance director, will take over as chief executive at the end of the year when Allan Bridgewater, 60, retires.

In the interim, Mr Harvey has been appointed deputy group chief executive. He will continue his existing responsibilities as group finance director and appointed actuary.

The appointment clarifies the question of succession in

advance of the flotation. Philip Scott, 43, manager of NU's life and pensions division, was also considered to be in the running for the top job but currently remains as manager of NU's life and pensions division. He joined NU in 1976 and became general manager (finance) in 1992. He was responsible for overhauling NU after a number of general insurance and property market losses.

Mr Harvey, 46, was born in Birmingham and joined NU in 1992 as chief executive of its New Zealand operation. Prior to this he was chief executive of Sun Alliance's life subsidiary in New Zealand.

He returned to the UK in July 1993 and took on the additional role of appointed actuary in 1994. He joined the main NU board as a director in 1995 and is a fellow of the Institute of Actuaries.

A spokesman for NU said no decision had been made about appointing a new finance director.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

French await GEC move on Framatome

THE French Government is waiting for a reply from GEC to conditions for a merger of Framatome, which makes nuclear reactors, and GEC-Alsthom, the Anglo-French group, France's largest nuclear reactor manufacturer, said yesterday. M. Borotra, the French Industry Minister, said yesterday. M. Borotra said the Government had laid down five conditions. Two of these were that the French Government would have control over any strategic decisions concerning nuclear matters, and the continuation of co-operation between France and Germany over a future EPR reactor.

The other three conditions were the maintenance of Framatome's nuclear activities with a separate identity, a predominant role for French capital in the business, and the "clear identification of provisions for nuclear risk". GEC and Alcatel-Alsthom each owns half of GEC-Alsthom. Alcatel-Alsthom also owns 44 per cent of Framatome, in which French state bodies hold a controlling interest.

Lufthansa warning

GERMANY'S Federal Cartel Office has given Lufthansa, the national airline, a warning over the fares it charges on the key Berlin-Frankfurt route. A spokeswoman for the cartel office said it would require the airline to reduce its fares on the route to equivalent journeys. Lufthansa rejected the criticism and queried the legal standing of the office's warning. The airline argues that the fares it charges on this route do not cover its costs, and so cannot be viewed as excessive.

Denby sales higher

DENBY GROUP, the tableware company, enjoyed a 15 per cent rise in sales in the first three months of the current financial year. At the company's annual meeting yesterday shareholders were told the UK tableware market remained subdued and Denby sought further growth in exports. Sales to America and Japan were performing well and solid progress was being achieved in Germany. Denby shares rose 7p to 277.5p yesterday.

Benson restores payout

BENSON GROUP, the manufacturer of environmental controls, has restored the interim dividend to 0.5p a share after a turnaround in continuing operations to profits of £845,000 before tax and exceptional items in the half year to November 30 from a loss of £559,000 previously. Pre-tax losses were reduced to £719,000 from £3.54 million after a £1.5 million charge against the disposal of two subsidiaries. Adjusted earnings were 2.7p a share (3.9p loss).

OMI in American deal

OMI International, the UK engineering solutions company, is to acquire Redkoh Industries, a privately owned environmental control company based in New Jersey, for \$1.6 million in cash and shares. Redkoh claims 14 per cent of the world preprocessor control market. The business earned pre-tax profits of \$87,000 in the year to March 31. The vendor is being paid \$800,000 in cash and two million OMI shares, which will be retained until at least January 5, 1998.

Russian consultancy

PRICE WATERHOUSE is creating the largest management consultancy in Russia by combining various existing practices. The London firm, the first foreign consultancy to be granted a Soviet licence in 1990, will be employing 300 information technology specialists and said that LVS, one of its new acquisitions, was a "leading technology and systems integration consulting business with a management team that is among the top in Russia".

Fred conversion has way to go

David Haigh finds benefits and shortcomings in the soon-to-be reshaped standard on goodwill

THE Accounting Standards Board will shortly convert its Financial Reporting Exposure Draft 12 (Fred 12), *Goodwill and intangible assets*, into a new accounting standard. It is rumoured that the International Accounting Standards Committee will alter Exposure Draft 30 to fall into line with the ASB.

The new ASB standard will replace Statement of Standard Accounting Practice 22, which permits fundamentally different accounting treatments for intangible assets. At present, some companies write off goodwill straight to reserves, some capitalise and amortise them over periods of up to 40 years, while others capitalise them and simply review carrying values annually.

The latitude offered by SSAP 22 has created difficulty in comparing UK accounts.

In future, writing off acquisition "goodwill" straight to reserves will be banned. This practice avoids the need for annual amortisation charges in the profit and loss account and therefore flattens earnings per share. However, immediate write-off also reduces shareholders' reserves, sometimes dramatically. WPP, the

marketing services conglomerate, originally opted for immediate write-off when it acquired JWT and O&M, but subsequently capitalised its brand names. WPP's reserves would currently stand at minus £400 million if it had not changed its accounting treatment.

WPP's dilemma typifies the problems of heavily branded businesses built through acquisition. If GrandMet wrote off the £3.8 billion of acquired brands in its balance sheet it would eliminate shareholders' reserves.

In future, all companies will have to capitalise acquired intangibles in a consistent manner. It will be necessary to identify individual intangible assets, including brands, then set them up separately in the balance sheet. It will, however, be possible to avoid amortisation charges by arguing that the brands in question have indefinite lives. This will probably be the practice among most of the companies with brands currently in balance sheets. Those companies which restate past acquisitions will most likely only do so for brands that meet this test. The carrying value of such brands will have to be confirmed by



David Haigh says the measures do not go far enough

means of an annual discounted cashflow analysis of the relevant "income generating unit". This should pose few difficulties.

Unfortunately, there are several glaring omissions from Fred 12. There is no provision for the revaluation of acquired brands nor for the

inclusion of internally generated brands in the balance sheet; this conflicts with both UK and international conceptual accounting frameworks. Nor is there a requirement for revaluations or internally generated brand values to be reported anywhere else in financial statements. So while

More seriously there are no comprehensive guidelines on disclosure requirements for capitalised brands. The justifiable criticism that brand valuations are volatile would be significantly mitigated if more information were disclosed on assumptions.

Finally, the rules for independent valuation are dangerously vague. This creates the opportunity for fudges and conflicts of interest. Given the materiality of capitalised brands, the issues of disclosure and independent valuation need rapid clarification.

This is not simply an academic debate — the ultimate issue is the effect on share prices. There is evidence that disclosure of brand values enhances share prices. The point is that markets are not perfect and analysts are not all skilled in the business of DCF valuation.

The real reason for putting brands in balance sheets is to explain hidden value. Even with the new standards we are still only halfway there.

David Haigh is a chartered accountant and managing director of Brand Finance.

A welcome shove in the right direction

SMALL accounting firms see themselves as an endangered species. They see the world closing in around them. They can no longer afford to train their own staff. The tide of deregulation is removing any monopoly work they may have had. And, of course, they believe their professional bodies are in thrall to the largest, rather than smallest, firms.

Very little of this is true. But facts are never allowed to get in the way of a good whinge. And they are not going to like the latest idea floated by the Department of Trade and Industry. It has suggested that deregulation needs to go further. For the past two years businesses with a turnover between £90,000 and £350,000 have been allowed to skip the full audit and opt for an audit exemption, which means that a report of their financial progress and standing is produced but is not assessed or certified by the auditor.

Now the DTI suggests that this should be scrapped as well. This would mean that most small companies would have no legal need to employ an accountant. That does not mean that accountants immediately lose, all their business. Any company that has a keen view of the future, and has an accountant, will continue the relationship. And the shrinking of the old audit requirement obscures the fact that most small companies employ an accountant primarily to sort out their tax rather than worry about audits.

The DTI has a point. The audit exemption reports introduced in the last bout of deregulation have been a mixed blessing. Research published last week by the Scots ICA shows that their status is widely misunderstood. And Ken Wild, technical partner at Deloitte & Touche, has argued that they are "bizarre in that, in spite of being time-consuming, they do not require the accountants to support the entries in the accounting records or the estimate or the judgments made by the directors in preparing the accounts". His verdict: "The sooner they disappear the better".

His views are supported by some of the Scots research. David Wood, ICA assistant director, accounting and audit, said that the main concern was that "users may not really understand the distinction between an audit report and an audit exemption report and may be placing unwarranted reliance on the latter". The research bears this out.

Users of accounts were worried that businesses using the audit exemption route were not getting a thorough test of their systems and other argued that banks and other lenders are likely to be sceptical about the audit exemption route gave no independent checks and generally lacked reliability. And they complained about the possibility of generally declining standards without the presence of the regulation of a full audit.

A third of accountants said that banks may be unhappy about businesses opting for exemption reports. But, as cynics might say, they would, wouldn't they. Small accountancy firms are not going to give their full support to something that removes some of their easier, routine and less taxing work.

It is a difficult issue to judge. Users of accounts want some sort of independent assurance. The businesses themselves find that their first desire is to get pedantic auditors off their premises, but that their second is to provide enough evidence to lenders that their business deserves as much if not more support. The accountants are loath to see good business evaporate.

And the research suggests another worry. As Wood puts it: "Taking all small companies out of the audit requirement could result in the majority of small and medium-sized accounting practices no longer performing audits." The result, he thinks, would be "further consolidation". Audit services and training might become concentrated in only the largest firms and cities, with the service being completely removed from their smaller counterparts, he suggested.

And here we come to the essence of the concerns. Taking businesses out of the audit net makes sense. It is something which, like the recent proposals for removing the need for small companies to comply with full accounting standards, is unarguable.

But, at the same time, accounting firms have to be uneasy about any diminution of their market. A generation of accountants in their late forties and early fifties learnt their skills doing small audits... of spotting very quickly whether accounts look right or wrong. But this ignores the fact that deregulation will force small accounting firms either to enhance their advisory abilities or go out of business. That is where the choice lies. Deregulation is just the welcome shove in the right direction.



ROBERT BRUCE

Seconds out in borrowing bout

CHANTREY VELLACOTT has come up with a great new variant on the old game of calculating the day of the year when taxpayers start earning money for themselves rather than for the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

It has calculated the average borrowings-per-second figure that the Government needs to achieve to qualify for the European single currency. Ac-

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

According to partner Maurice Fitzpatrick, the average needs to be £740 per second or below to qualify.

The Treasury forecast for borrowing works out at £725 a second, which means that the United Kingdom would get in. But the OECD has estimated that the United Kingdom's borrowing figure will be £860 a second. This figure means that we lose out. Chantrey

Vellacott is very sensibly hedging its bets.

Language barrier

IF YOU thought UK accountants had problems, spare a thought for the Canadians. Or, to be more precise, the accountants in Quebec. A survey shows that English-speaking accountants in the province earn nearly \$20,000 a year more on average

than their French-speaking colleagues. No one seems able to explain this. The survey said that English-speakers were generally older, and that could have an effect. No one has calculated what being bilingual does to the salaries.

Tables turn

THE word in the marketplace is that the profession has mis-

calculated again. Through the recession, accounting firms cut back on staff. Now that business is booming, there is a desperate shortage. And firms are having to resort to every possible measure to make newly qualified accountants happy when it was but a few years ago that they could not sack enough of them. There is an irony in the announcement that Price Waterhouse is offering extra prize money to any of its students doing especially well in their exams. It is better than the PwS they used to hand out.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

[illegible]



■ FILM 1

Tinseltown at its most sentimental, but at least Whitney Houston sings in *The Preacher's Wife*.



■ FILM 2

Lions, African adventurers and imperialism, as *The Ghost and the Darkness* serves up pretentious action.

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ FILM 3

The underpowered *Picture Bride* depicts the life of a Japanese teenage wife in rural Hawaii.



■ FILM 4

Rarely-heard Shostakovich music is the centrepiece of the intriguing *Rothschild's Violin*.

CINEMA: Even its star duo can't add sparkle to the creaking remake of an old Cary Grant vehicle, says Geoff Brown

A queasy Christmas leftover

Just when you have safely put away the paraphernalia of Christmas, out come the reindeer, the fairy lights, the nativity play, and the far dollops of Hollywood schmaltz. *The Preacher's Wife* was released on December 20 in the States; watching it now is like eating cold leftovers from someone else's Christmas dinner.

It is doubtful, though, if the film could ever have made a nourishing meal, even with the glamorous star-coupling of Denzel Washington and Whitney Houston as an appeaser. True, Houston sings; she goes back to her roots and sings gospel, too. But she also has to follow a plot that forces her to fall under the spell of an angel called Dudley, sent from heaven to help her husband, an inner-city Baptist minister crowded with troubles. True, Denzel Washington looks a picture in nativity

The Preacher's Wife
Odeon West End, U, 124 mins
Appealing stars, antiquated whimsy
The Ghost and the Darkness
Empire, 15, 110 mins
Ponderous African adventure
Walking and Talking
Virgin Haymarket, 15, 86 mins
Pleasant if flimsy New York comedy
Picture Bride
Curzon Phoenix, 12, 90 mins
Timid goings-on in Hawaii

threads coloured white and grey; but he, poor man, plays the angel, one who lacks wings but boasts a handshake described as "kind of like springtime and another's home cooking all rolled into one".

The last time this queasy plot was served up was a world ago, in 1947. The film was then 20 minutes shorter and called *The Bishop's Wife*, the title of the source material by the fanciful novelist Robert Nathan. The angel was played by the twinkling Cary Grant, the troubled bishop was David Niven, while the wife was Loretta Young — a poor gospel singer, no doubt, but a great one for quivering her large dewy eyes.

Intuiting though it now appears, the original film at least smacks of its period. *The Preacher's Wife*, turgidly directed by Penny Marshall, appears lost in limbo. No liquor store robberies or indiscreet plugs for computer software can shake the film into modern times. It also creeps with contrivances big and small, from Houston's reluctance to sing at a nightclub — what else is the lady in the film for? — to the "cute" close-up of a cross-eyed kid beaming behind specs in the church's Christmas festivities.

Luckily, Houston and Washington always look agreeable together, whether skating, dancing, or beaming quietly with Christian charity. But neither spends much time seriously acting. The hard stuff is left to Courtney B. Vance. Against the odds he lends dignity and genuine feeling to the Baptist preacher Reverend Henry Biggs, who darts about in an orange-lined parka, struggling to keep church,



Good news: In *The Preacher's Wife* Whitney Houston sings gospel. Bad news: she also has to follow a plot that has her falling under the spell of an angel sent to help her husband

community and his marriage together: the one human figure in a film populated by puppets.

After that Tinseltown whimsy, *The Ghost and the Darkness* whisks us off to Africa at the end of the 19th century for an unduly ponderous action drama with intellectual trimmings. A true story lies in wait. "Even the most impossible parts of this story really happened," the narrator says proudly.

The impossible parts, I suppose, are the activities of the two lions, known locally as the Ghost and the Darkness. These cunning and ferocious beasts chew up quantities of the workforce at Tsavo, East Africa, who are helping the British to build a railway that would secure their control of the Ivory trade. In fact the lions are easy to take compared to Michael Douglas's hunter Remington, who rides into view from the American South, with a cocked revolver, shaggy, greying hair, and a lazy excuse for a performance. The lions I believe, Douglas I don't.

Remington arrives to solve what Tom Wilkinson's railroad boss dismisses as "a few minor difficulties with the local wildlife". Val Kilmer, lightly equipped with an Irish accent, plays the engineer John Patterson, who has failed to stop the beasts in their tracks. After some mutual sparring the two join forces, striding into the dimly-lit bush to face the lions' roar, and the whoops and shrieks of an orchestral score by Jerry Goldsmith.

Along the way, William Goldman's script provides the characters with philosophical reflections on evil, and the gulf between man and nature. Relieved of the task of directing junk like *Blown Away*, Stephen Hopkins basks in the film's serious side. Unfortunately, there is not enough here to grip a thoughtful audience for long, while the crowds who expect escapism get a small ration of popular thrills.

Not enough happens. When something does, the Oscar-winning cameraman Vilmos Zsigmond can-

oulares it in fancy dark brown hues. More damagingly, the details of the setting soon fade, leaving the space to be occupied by two stars far from home, and a lot of Hollywood hot air.

With *Walking and Talking*, frisky and flimsy, American cinema returns to familiar territory: the upscale New York of Woody Allen and the more polite independent movie-makers, where characters shuttle between apartments and coffee shops, cinemas and therapists, analysing their lives, walking and talking. The novelty of Nicole Holofcener's debut feature lies in its female perspective on friendship, commitment and the Manhattan merry-go-round.

Amelia and Laura have been best friends since high school. Now the former room-mates are at the crossroads. For Laura (Anne Heche), a trainee therapist, marriage lies ahead. For Amelia (Catherine Keen-

er), nothing looms except a desperate dalliance with a videostore employee whose idea of a date movie is *Freak Show 7*. Other characters causing complications include Laura's fiancé, Amelia's ex-boyfriend, and a cat with cancer.

Not that we spend much quality time with any of them. Holofcener, a graduate of Columbia University's film school, favours very brief scenes that may catch the scramble of people's lives, but keep the treatment superficial. Yet along with hasty or redundant moments, Holofcener crafts scenes that fleetingly catch a mood or an experience: Amelia's doleful date with the video guy (amusingly played by Kevin Corrigan); or Laura's jitters over a mole on her fiancé's chest.

Holofcener's cast certainly respond well to a script peppered with funny lines; and both Keener and Heche prove particularly adept at squeezing a kaleidoscope of feelings into a tiny space. One looks forward to the director's next film, when she

will hopefully give her script ballast and her characters time to grow.

In *Picture Bride*, an Asian-American venture made in 1993, the bride is a 17-year-old girl from Yokohama, who through an exchange of photographs is given in marriage in 1918 to a sugar-cane worker in Hawaii. Expectations are not fulfilled. The husband is far older than his own photo indicated: the plantation work is hard, and home is a hovel. Kayo Hatta's timorous film leaves its own expectations unfulfilled. Interesting material about Hawaii's immigrant mix is touched on, but not developed. One tiny scene is replaced by another; nothing builds. The visual beauties never exceeding conventional shots of skies and landscapes. Youki Kudoh, familiar in the West as the punk Japanese girl in *Mystery Train*, is decent enough as the bride who perseveres through her disappointments; but all told, this is the kind of exasperatingly genteel film that you just want to throttle.

SNAP
VERDICT

'May induce nausea'

Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases...

THE PREACHER'S WIFE
Jasmeet Anand, 20: This broad remake of *The Bishop's Wife* ends up becoming a showcase for Whitney Houston. Although she sings wonderfully, the acting is shallow and over-sentimentality seems to be the order of the day. Susan Wallace, 19: Some unfortunate scriptwriter has yet again been tortured into finding another way to fit a whole Whitney album into a film. Heartwarming, but may induce bouts of nausea. Sonia Noronha, 20: Not as entertaining as I expected. The film seemed to have been designed simply to demonstrate Whitney's vocal talent. Reena Kotecha, 19: This lacks a strong, original plot, with the storyline of an angel sent from heaven to save the day being used once again. The uplifting gospel singing is perhaps the only redeeming feature of the film.

THE GHOST AND THE DARKNESS

Jasmeet: This film has only two good points: the stunning scenery and the photography. Although Val Kilmer is superb playing the strong, silent type, the sporadic Irish accent is off-putting. All in all, it fails to make an impact.

Susan: Somewhat more grisly than *The Lion King*: not for the faint-hearted. Endless close-ups of angry lions eventually lose their impact through repetition. Distinctly average.

Sonia: The stunning backdrop to this film really brought Africa to life, making it well worth seeing. The scenes of lion terror will leave viewers on the edge of their seats. Reena: Packed with action and adventure. The splendour of the African scenery is filmed with finesse and adds to the attraction of the film.

WALKING AND TALKING
Jasmeet: An original plot with some extremely strange characters. The film moved along well and kept me laughing. Although not on general release, search this one out.

Susan: This drily humorous film flowed very naturally. The relatively unknown cast was excellent.

Sonia: Filled with emotion and humour. Reena: A must-see for young adults.

Shostakovich in focus

A long-suppressed operatic work of art bearing the stamp of Shostakovich, which has not been staged anywhere in the world for almost 30 years, has received its world premiere in Paris — in a film version.

But *Rothschild's Violin* (currently playing at Le 14 Juillet Beaubourg cinema) is more than just a film of a little-known opera. It tells the fascinating story that lies behind the work and blends music, drama, singing and historical fact into an inspiring whole. The pity is that no British distributor has snapped it up yet.

Adapted from a short story by Anton Chekhov, the opera began to be composed shortly before the Second World War by the Jewish Soviet musician, Benjamin Fleischmann. In 1941 he met his death during the defence of Leningrad and it was his music, master, Dmitri Shostakovich, who completed the composition and did the orchestration.

An opera by the Russian master is currently showing in Paris — on film

performed — in 1966 — only to be banned the following day.

The opera evokes the now vanished world of the *shetel*, a tightly-knit Jewish community. The film is shot in shimmering, bright colours, and the participants assume the expressive lyricism of the silent cinema. The story is that of a man trying to atone for his sins by an act of generosity.

Bronza is a bitter and materialistic violinist and coffin maker in a village of elderly people who never seem to die. On the demise of his long-suffering wife he is suddenly confronted with the emptiness of his life and, in a spontaneous gesture, gives his treasured violin to the village's poorest boy, whom he had frequently insulted. The boy, who has never played the fiddle before, starts to play melodies that have never been heard before.

Newsreel footage (some very

seen before) of spectacular, patriotic Stalinist processions and fanatical Nazi rallies are interspersed into the narrative, which has the tension of a good detective story. Actors portray the principal figures in the drama with conviction and authority.

The opera itself is the centrepiece of the film. It is a beautiful yet powerful work, with rousing crescendos and quieter, gender passages. The music is both joyful and sad, melancholic and uplifting, perfectly recreating the world of a lost paradise.

Ironically, the film was produced in France and shot in the Russian language by Edgardo Cozarinsky, a filmmaker of Argentinian origin, in the very countries that had originally banned the work. It features Sergei Leiferkus and other distinguished Russian opera singers, with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Gennadi Rozdestvensky.

The final words of this little gem are spoken by Shostakovich himself, who says: "Too many of our people have been killed and nobody knows where they are buried. Who can erect a monument to their memory? Only music can do that." And, may one suggest, film as well.

LAURENCE GREEN

RADIO: Peter Barnard on a network with a niche How 2 now fits to a T

Radio 2 has spent a difficult few years with the flustered appearance of a party guest who has turned up at the wrong address but takes several hours to realise his mistake. Now, however, it has found the right front door and is looking more comfortable by the week.

The perception that Radio 2 had gone to pot was always a mite exaggerated, but this is the most difficult of the BBC networks to place in a permanent niche. Radios 1, 3 and 4 have audiences whose tastes and age, by and large, are unchanging. Radio 2's audience is more fluid: a combination of people who have grown out of Radio 1 but would rather not admit it, and people who never really liked Radio 1 but have even more being described as middle of the road.

One of the better clues to how a network sees its appeal is in programme titles. If the name of a personality appears in the title, it is a reasonable assumption that the network believes that name is sufficient to attract the audience it is seeking. Consider therefore the titles of four consecu-



Saturday night slot for the middle-aged Bryan Ferry

tive programmes on Saturday evening: *Arthur Smith's Amusing Bits*, *Bassey's Birthday Bash*, *Bryan Ferry*, *The Ella Fitzgerald Songbook*.

Smith and Ferry are middle-aged. Bassey is 60 (hence the birthday bash) and Fitzgerald recently died. Smith, originally a so-called alterna-tive comic, is now more or less mainstream; Ferry is from the rock era wistfully remembered as intelligent; Bassey and Fitzgerald, though vastly different, probably share a great many fans.

But what this scheduling

illustrates above all is that Radio 2 is now a class act rather than something from the supporting bill. Now everything has a purpose.

Audience research figures next month will make interesting reading in respect of Radio 2. The last ones, relating to the third quarter of 1996, show an audience share among all radio stations of 12.3 per cent for the network, up from 11.8 per cent a year earlier. That means around 8.5 million people a week tune in. They are getting good value from a station that has at last found its way.

Musical banquet for the old ham

CONCERT

OAE/Manze
Queen Elizabeth Hall

OUR days know nothing of hype compared with those of Arcangelo Corelli. To prove the point, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment constructed an evening of musical extravagance and sycophancy as an "armonico tributo" to that "virtuosissimo di violino" of the 17th century.

First we were to hear what caused all the fuss: for this perfecter of the concerto grosso was seen as a musical Messiah, spreading the gospel of a new musical language for the forthcoming century. His "furious lanchings (sic) out into puzzles" and his bizarre behaviour in performance caused comment: violinist Andrew Manze, directing the OAE from his leader's chair, was doubtless wise to turn an expressive back to his audience.

Manze's own eyeballs were surely rolling during the scrunching suspensions of the slow movement of Corelli's Sonata a quattro in G minor for strings as, not content with every passing dissonance, the composer would constantly change key. The introductory overture to an oratorio written for one fawning cardinal to honour another was a sober affair by comparison.

The trumpet was, in Corelli's day, an angelic melodist of an instrument, although his writing for it in the Sonata a quattro in D major was the very devil for the contemporary natural trumpet to play, as Mark Bennett discovered. Bennett returned for a Sonata by Stradella and for the Trumpet Sonata in D by Corelli's contemporary, Torelli.

In both these works the strings of the OAE produced some of the most imaginative and subtly refined playing I have heard from them this season. Soloists such as co-leader Alison Bury and cellist Susan Sheppard came into their own in that supreme piece of musical hype, Geminiani's orchestration of Corelli's violin sonata, *La Follia*, exploiting every trick of the time and of the trade throughout its encyclopaedia of Baroque variations.

HILARY FINCH



■ VISUAL ART

St Ives celebrates one of its most talented painters: Christopher Wood, who died in 1930 at the age of 29



■ THEATRE

Blink and you miss it: the Mime Festival serves up a show lasting just five minutes

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ JAZZ

A well-meant tribute to the late Ella Fitzgerald only intermittently comes to life



■ TOMORROW

Why the BBC is going crazy this weekend for the music of an avant-garde Polish composer

Postcards from Cornwall

Isabel Carlisle on the brief life and Surreal art of Christopher Wood, influenced alike by opium and St Ives

The Tate Gallery St Ives has just rearranged itself for the fourth time in its short life. Like the Tate Gallery in London, the works on show change every year, with the Cornish gallery concentrating on the work of the St Ives school of painters who first settled in this little fishing village between the wars. It is a narrow brief, perhaps too narrow to sustain in the long term, although this year's display achieves a coherence around a central theme that was lacking in some previous years.

There is a feeling of doors ajar into other worlds

The new focus is the painter Christopher Wood, and in particular his scenes of Cornwall and its French equivalent, Cornouaille in Brittany. The first gallery places Wood in the context of artists working either side of 1925, when he was first achieving recognition: Georges Braque, Ivon Hitchens, Ben Nicholson, Henry Moore and Alfred Wallis among others. Immediately after Wood himself comes a room that links Britain to European postwar art — the School of Paris and the CoBrA group.

Wood died in 1930 at the age of 29, with his myth already fully formed. He was a friend, probably lover, of Jean Cocteau, who encouraged his use of opium. He had been befriended also by Picasso and the poet Max Jacob, had worked for Diaghilev, had been the darling of Parisian high society and travelled

widely. In this country it was he and Ben Nicholson together who in 1928 spotted the paintings of the retired sailor Alfred Wallis through an open door in St Ives, an event which is credited with a profound effect on the British modern movement. Wallis's direct, naive vision entered directly into the work of both artists.

Nicholson later progressed into abstraction. Wood's suicide posed the question of the direction his early promise might have taken, had he possessed the moral courage to fight his opium addiction and overcome the emotional and legal problems of being a homosexual in England at that time. Although his unresolved potential must be an issue for an exhibition of Wood's works, it is addressed only obliquely here.

The scenes of Breton and Cornish life — the small compact buildings, the narrow streets, the working people, the fishing boats and the sea — were an uncomplicated refuge for Wood. The works that emerged are unremarkable but troubling, absorbing and then breathing out a faint whiff of Wood's depressive tendencies and opium-induced hallucinations. Many were painted with great speed from picture postcards in what, with hindsight, was a last dash to establish a reputation far removed from Paris.

Wood's letter of 1928 to Winifred Nicholson from St Ives makes it



Loading the Boat, St Ives (1926): "The small buildings, the narrow streets, the working people, the fishing boats and the sea were an uncomplicated refuge for Wood"

tempting to see him as little more than a recording eye. "Each day there is a new thrill here: wonderful sunshine, terrific storms — each thing is at its best, for this is a picture gallery of only the good pictures, and one feels its good quality so much that one hardly wants to seek another." Seen en masse, however, there is a powerful

feeling in Wood's work of doors ajar into other, foreign, artistic worlds. That Wood opened up new ways of seeing and possibilities of depiction has to be seen as part of his claim to lasting recognition.

The element of strangeness is palpable in *Sleeping Fisherman*, Ploaré, Brittany. The semi-naked figure on the beach, lying by a

basket of mackerel, looks huge against the church and little houses in the background. He could be some mythical hero swept up out of the sea. The rapid brushstrokes, especially in the sky, suggest a nervous expectancy. Nor is the portrait of Max Jacob of a figure in repose: he, too, is poised on the edge of action.

The chalky colours and classical solidity of *The New Boat*, *Treboul* or *The Fisherman's Farewell* suggest Italian fresco painting, while *The Jumping Boy*, *Azarel* hints at the kind of Surrealism developed later by the English artist Leonora Carrington, who worked closely with Max Ernst. Two powerfully surreal works. *The Yellow Man* and *Zebra and Parachute*, both painted in the year of Wood's death, are not in this show. It is most likely that, by temperament at least, Surrealism was the route along which Wood might have found his true artistic voice.

Christopher Wood, A painter between two Cornwalls is at Tate Gallery St Ives until April 20

Brief encounter

THE London International Mime Festival brings many curiosities our way. I cherish the evening I sat in a striped pavilion erected within the ICA, put on the silver wig that identified me as Haydn and read some words in praise of Mozart, who played us a little light music before handing round cups of chocolate.

But inside that pavilion there were about 30 of us. At the BAC, the performance by young Frenchman Ezechiel Garcia-Romeu takes place within a tent only large enough for one person at a time, and it lasts five minutes. Was that five minutes you said, Mr Kingstom? From the moment his audience of one begins staring into a miniature theatre to the moment when its black curtain falls again, yes, five minutes.

What we see there is M Garcia-Romeu's hands, one of which articulates a glove puppet, though calling this elaborately carved item a puppet is

Le Marotoscope
BAC, SW11

akin to saying that Michelangelo's *David* and Tracy's garden gnome are both statues. A ghostly figure, on whose tiny face a lifetime's sorrows seem to be etched, takes his place at a table, dips his quill, writes, discards. The gestures of discontent are exquisitely lifelike and what happens would have appealed to Samuel Beckett, master of the bleakly brief effect.

The experience is so pure that the dross of life seems blown away. As for Marot: a poet of that name wrote the first French sonnet 500 years ago, so perhaps it is he we have glimpsed, trying to write the second.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Anthropomorbidity

WHEN Stephen Mottram was a boy, Jeremy Kingston writes, he watched crayfish being caught, cooked and eaten, and wondered how the meal would have looked if the crayfish had been human in shape. This quirky perception, and Richard Dawkins's notion that living forms exist so as to carry DNA forward, are influences behind the "dreamlike glimpses into the lives of small, crunchy people" that make up Mottram's 60-minute marionette show.

"Although his invention begins peering away near the end, he creates a haunting, fascinating and even (in the opening scenes) distressing world where human creatures are pursued for the valuable seeds they contain. His creatures are made of wood: stings are tied to bits of metal protruding beside their joints, and Mottram makes no attempt to hide the hand that

The Seed Carriers
ICA

holds them: but he knows precisely how to make them crawl, hop, walk, frantically wriggle when caught, beat their arms against imprisonment and find themselves powerless against death. On to a round stage, like a monster grindstone, they trot with just those movements of wooden limb that would signal, were they to be alive, hope, curiosity, caution and terror. What makes the sight so agitating is that Mottram's are the hands guiding them, and his the hands that catch them in a net and bash their heads against a wall. His artistry is formidable, like his imagination. I have never before seen the certainties of marionettes combined so insistently with dread.

Moonlight and Pastoral in 1
Tempest in 2
Royal Festival Hall RPT1

JAZZ: A tribute to Ella Fitzgerald; new directions for an enduring partnership; and rebirth of a singer-songwriter

Ella sung to the power of three

Ella Fitzgerald
Songbook
Pizza On The Park

IF YOU are going to mount a tribute to Ella Fitzgerald, the complete singer, it makes sense to have three voices at your disposal. Barbara Jay, Maxine Daniels and Tina May, the triumvirate diving into Ella's life and career, cover an admirable amount of musical ground in their guided tour. But a clumsy script and some awkward transitional passages ensure that, as it stands, the show amounts to rather less than the sum of its parts. Since May has only recently joined the line-up, replacing Rosemary Squires, the proceedings should soon flow more smoothly.

Part of the problem, of course, is that Fitzgerald was such an elusive personality, hidden behind the flawless enunciation and the impeccable timing. Jay, Daniels and May offer plenty of showbiz patter and the sketchiest of biographical outlines, preferring to concentrate on the music. Opening with the pre-war nursery rhyme *A Tisk-A Tisk*, they move quickly on to the "songbook" albums that Fitzgerald recorded for the Verve label. You're *The Top* functioned as a genial duet for Jay and the new member of the trio, Cole

Porter's arch list-song augmented with a wry reference to "Madonna's salary". April in Paris provided a graceful solo feature for Daniels, with Tommy Whittle's quartet purring at her heels as she segued into *Lullaby of Birdland*. Jay and Daniels, veterans in this field, were both at home with the unforced swing tempos. May, a more self-consciously virtuosic (and occasionally laboured) singer, gave us more of Ella the stratospheric stylist.

The barren patch that Fitzgerald encountered in the Sixties after leaving Verve was reflected in the incongruous choice of *Can't Buy Me Love*, energetically delivered by all three singers. Given that Fitzgerald recorded so many titles by Antonio Carlos Jobim, it seemed a pity to roll out *The Girl From Ipanema* yet again, although May's treatment made an ebullient change of gear into a brisk 4/4 beat halfway through.

CLIVE DAVIS

Hey Jude, welcome back

Judie Tzuke
Jazz Café

NO, YOU are not the victim of some dastardly timeslip. It really is Judie Tzuke, heroine of an altogether more sensitive era of singer-songwriters, who is treading the boards anew with dignity intact.

Many will remember Tzuke only for the sylvan ballad *Stay With Me Till Dawn*, her solitary hit single more than 17 years ago. More committed followers stayed with her a good deal longer, as she moved through the 1980s with a series of albums for assorted major labels. A pointless cover of *God Only Knows* for Columbia brought her to a crossroads. It was time to go indie: first with *Castle* on 1992's *Wonderland* and then, this year, to a state of true independence.

Tzuke has released her new album *Under The Angels* on her own Big Moon label, but only via mail order and the Internet (at <http://www.bogo.co.uk/paz/>). The album has sold out of its initial pressing, and this opening night of a 22-date tour, her first here for 11 years, was well supported. Any nerves Tzuke may have felt were masked by her obvious delight at breaking free from the shackles. Not only are her songwriting and vocal powers undiminished, they are likely to blossom more brightly in such manageable club venues than in

LIKE any fruitful long-term relationship, the musical partnership between saxophonist Andy Sheppard and keyboard player Steve Lodder has demanded a certain amount of flexibility from each, but the results, from their initial recorded collaboration on Sheppard's 1989 album *Introductions in the Dark* onward, have been impressive. One of Lodder's great strengths is his necessarily self-effacing skill as an accompanist, but with their latest project, the quartet *Moving Image*, there are

Moving Image
Ronnie Scott's

signs that his hitherto undersung talents for composition and improvised soloing are being given their due.

The band, fleshed out by bassist Dudley Phillips and drummer Mark Mondesir, derive their name from the fact that their core repertoire (the material making up their recent eponymous album) was composed by Lodder and Sheppard for various film and TV projects. Live, however, it is clear that the freedom and space granted by a flexible rhythm section to both front-line players is at least as important as the quartet's roots in this relatively restricting medium.

Setting out their stall with a lively opener, *Rubberneck*

Deep in a new groove

ing, the hand soon settled — courtesy chiefly of a vigorous burst of tenor-drums interplay pitting all Mondesir's tumbling energy against the controlled bluster of Sheppard — into an informal but disciplined groove. Sheppard switched to sopra-

no for the heart of the set, but it was his rapport with Lodder which sparked the band.

Lodder's soloing, whether on piano or synthesiser, is always both mellifluous and energetically inventive, but it is his almost uncanny ability to select precisely the right

keyboard timbre and texture to set off the overall group sound that marks him out as a master. On the evidence of this gig, *Moving Image* should provide another rewarding outlet for the Sheppard-Lodder team that trades under the misleading name Shaddy Music Inc.

CHRIS PARKER

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER — THE TIMES

SAVE 60% ON CAREER GUIDES

As a reader of *The Times* you can give yourself a head start in the career race by taking advantage of our special offer to get a *Cosmopolitan Career Guide* for only £2.49, a saving of £4.50.

Securing your first step on the career ladder and climbing upwards is always tricky. These paperbacks will be invaluable to you because they are full of practical advice. You can choose up to three titles from these six *Cosmopolitan Guides*:

- How to Get Ahead in Your Career
- Working in Journalism and Publishing
- Student Life
- Working in Retail
- Working in PR and Advertising
- Working in Finance

HOW TO GET YOUR CAREER GUIDES

For each book you need two differently numbered tokens from *The Times* (six will be published this week) and a cheque or postal order for £2.49 per book made payable to Penguin Books Ltd. Post the cheque/postal order and tokens with the completed application form to: *The Times/Cosmopolitan Career Guides Offer*, Penguin Direct, Bath Road, Harmondsworth, Middx, UB8 3DA. Orders must be received by Friday February 7, 1997.



THE TIMES

CAREER
GUIDE
TOKEN 4

CHANGING TIMES

Derwent May finds himself travelling across the globe in the company of a storyteller of shrewdness and irony

Worlds in which to disappear

THE COLLECTED STORIES

By Paul Theroux
Hamish Hamilton, £20
ISBN 0 241 13518 4

Paul Theroux has been around the world a lot, and wherever he has gone he has found — or imagined — stories. Here he has collected the contents of four volumes that have already been published, and has added a little sandwich of new stories in the middle. There are 68 stories altogether, and not one that is not worth reading.

The two earlier volumes — *World's End* and *Sinners With Annie* — go leaping over the frontiers of the world, and also over the frontiers of style. We eavesdrop on two Dutchwomen who are practising their English as they drink tea in a hotel. Slowly, through her stiff and error-ridden English phrases, one reveals to the other an outrageous sexual adventure she had when visiting London with her church-going husband. Turn the page, and we are in Africa, hearing about a two-timing young American teacher who, in his haste to turn his black mistress out of his house when a white girl is coming, puts on a shirt before she has ironed it — and catches a ghastly skin

disease. It is a young entomologist who tells this tale — and he tells it with the same sadistic precision that he employs when tweezing out the worms from his colleague's pustules.

Both of these, though dashingly different from each other in style, are Somerset Maugham-type stories, with a twist in the tail. But Theroux is just as successful at the other pole of the short story — what might be called the Chekhov-type tale. In this kind of story, at the end, there is not a revelation, but just an episode, perhaps quite a minor one, that sends a poignant reverberation back through all that has preceded it.

A *Burial at Surabaya* is a good example. An old Jew dies in a remote Javanese town, and a handful of friends — all that is left of what was never much of a community — gather at his grave. A prosperous cousin, who has flown in specially from Singapore, boils over with anger that they have started without him. When he has gone again, they are left standing in the bright sunlight in the featureless cemetery, among indifferent gravediggers — but they are a little less sad, a little more aware of the dignity that has never abandoned them.

The two collections in the second half of the book — *The Consul's File* and *The London Embassy* — are more homogeneous. Each has the same narrator, a young man in the American Foreign Service who first lives in a small Malayan town, Ayer Hitam, as American consul (there used to be many American rubber estates there), and



Theroux: sharp-tongued

later comes to Grosvenor Square as a political officer. Theroux was out in Singapore teaching, and more recently lived in London, and these stories obviously draw on those experiences. But it was a brilliant idea to make his storyteller a diplomat,

because in both postings so many curious characters so naturally come his way. In one of the Malay stories, the narrator remarks how after a year, Ayer Hitam had come to seem "a much bigger place, not the small island I knew it to be, but a vastness in which people could change or disappear". That is what the stories make it for us. An Englishwoman who is always being criticised by her husband for losing things succeeds, finally, in losing him in an impenetrable jungle. A Japanese businessman who comes every week to play tennis at the local club is hated by the English expatriates there, but their plot to drive him out miscarries. There is even a story in which our consul solves a murder.

Posted to London, where he finds he is more naive than he thought he was, he gets taken for a ride by an upper-class English girl, but manages to hold his own among

his (mostly disagreeable or stupid) embassy superiors and rivals. He discovers a Muslim robbing the explorer Richard Burton's tomb in Mortlake — and locks him inside it. He saves the job of a junior member of the embassy staff by finding an ingenious way of dissuading him from wearing an earring.

Perhaps there is one weakness in some of these stories, which is that the narrator himself is not quite brought into focus. He is friendly and indulgent, though he does not much like hypocrites and liars, and can be a little sharp-tongued when he feels he is being imposed on. This is all very suitable for a storyteller, but he remains a medium, not a character created as the others are.

Among the new stories in the middle of the book there is one notably horrific tale — *Warm Dogs* — about a couple in an American city of the future who cross to the run-

down side of the river to adopt — which means buy — a baby, and discover that here it is the children who decree the fate of the adults. This is Theroux irony at its sharpest.

There are also many shrewd tales of difficult marriages, including that of the second-rate American scholar married to a Czech woman, whose relationship perks up when the Russians invade her country and campus people come to talk to her; a painful story of a man who buys his son a kite, and so discovers that his wife has a friend who has already taken the boy kite-flying; and a study of a pompous and ignorant man who is surprised when he fails to electrocute his wife in the bath by throwing a cheap transistor radio into it.

So it is agreeable that the volume ends with our young American diplomat falling in love and getting married, in two very delicate and convincing stories. It makes an unexpectedly happy conclusion to this rich but quizzical encyclopedia of life.

Change new editions for old

OXFORD University Press's winter catalogue makes one proud to be British (and more determined to stay that way). The titles range from *The Oxford Companion to Archaeology* and books on the contemporary composers Arvo Part and Henryk Górecki to *The American Corporation*. Today (who says Oxford needs a new business school?), at a time when so much in publishing and beyond is superficial, transient and exploitative, it is heartening to know that learning is still highly profitable and sought after.

YET even Clarendon nods. Finding an error of fact in one of the new Oxford titles, I wondered idly whether it might be possible for the press and the nearby library to co-operate by sending academic authors an extra copy of their books to correct, update and annotate, on the understanding that these would eventually be lodged with Bodley for future researchers.

Of course, the library holds many such items, but not systematically. If such a project had begun years ago, we would know where to turn to consult Blackstone's marginalia on his *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, Jowett's annotations to his *Plato* or Richard Ellmann's last thoughts about Joyce — which were all highlights of previous OUP seasons.

SANDPIPER Books has begun reprinting books from the Oxford backlist in editions just



BIBLIOMANE

as fine as the originals but much cheaper. Simon Walker's study of John of Gaunt's household, *The Lancastrian Affinity*, for instance, is reprinted at £12.99, having previously been £45. Hooray!

The first few titles are all studies in history and the classics. One can only hope that the venture will soon be extended to the incommensurable literary trove of the Oxford English Dictionary. This "blue chair" series, more than a century old, offers the finest scholarly editions of a host of poets and writers, but most are out of print and/or exorbitantly expensive. The five volumes of William Cowper's wonderful letters, for instance, would cost £415 if they were all available. It must be possible to reprint these more cheaply.

THE *New Statesman* recently gave away a selection from the new *Oxford Dictionary of Political Quotations* (£15.99). From Aeschylus to Tony Blair and Boris Yeltsin to Malcolm X, proclaim the book cover. But of this quarter only Aeschylus makes it into the abridgement. And of the other luminaries, Diane Abbott, Reagan, de Gaulle, Elizabeth II, Nehru, Washington and my quotable friend Matthew Parris, only the most luminous actually appears in the book: Diane Abbott.

Worse: of the figures caricatured on the front — Thatcher, Lincoln, Mandela, Hitler, Queen Victoria, Gandhi, Major and Blair — not one has a word inside.

FIFTY years after Rupert Hart-Davis's firm published its first book (Rupert Brooke's *Democracy and the Arts*), the publisher has collected its impressions of Beerbohm, Blunden, Keynes, Sassoon and others in *Praise from the Past* (500 copies, Stone Trough Books, 38 Fossegate, York, £2). There is no pretension, only a fondness: the literary world can hardly muster today. What friends they were.

The conversational business makes most of our big rappers seem tame. Neville Cardus was born in 1899 in Rusholme, a poor suburb of Manchester. His maternal grandfather was a pensioner expatriate with lumps in his head, caused by Chase's Peace's crowbar.

JIM MCCLE

Nothing new under the sun

Richard Davenport-Hines on the fear provoked by a novel disease

Last year marked the 500th anniversary of the appearance in Italy of a sexually transmitted disease with an apparently new set of symptoms — the disease we now call syphilis.

Nothing was newer, more distant or more foreign in 1496 than the New World. In consequence it was widely believed at the time that local women had been infected by mercenaries involved in the recent Siege of Naples, transmitting infections that they had acquired on Columbus's American voyage. The disease was rapidly disseminated through the peninsula and then all across Europe. The French referred to syphilis as the "great pox of Naples" while the Italians called it the "French sickness".

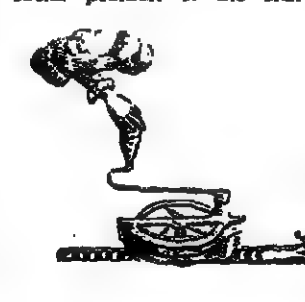
Appropriately, the authors of *The Great Pox* take an attractively cosmopolitan approach. They give the most detailed attention to medical and lay reactions to the disease in Italy, but also analyse its impact in Germany. The differing local power structures led to wide variety in treatment of the disease.

The courts of the Italian princes were political, economic and intellectual centres which gave status to their medical men. These physicians were as much concerned

THE GREAT POX
The French Disease in Renaissance Europe
By Jon Arrizabalaga, John Henderson and Roger French
Faber, £25
ISBN 0 300 06934 0

to maintain their reputations for masterful erudition when confronted by inexplicable new symptoms as to prevent the spread of infection. In Germany the city was the dominant political structure, which empowered its physicians but disadvantaged the poor.

The Great Pox is a work of scholarly nuance and diversified themes. Its illustrations include vivid depictions of invalids, prostitutes, flagellants and hospital wards. Amid such rich material the social position of the sick



Called "the pox of Naples" by the French and "the French sickness" by the Italians: line engraving, after van der Straet, of a syphilis sufferer.

emerges as especially interesting. Syphilitic patients did not die rapidly, but were left in lingering ill-health with slow debilitation.

This created a new underclass, unfit for work, who littered the streets importing passers-by with pathetic cries for alms. The authors argue that in the 16th century the pox provoked an increasingly hostile attitude towards the poor, who were treated with the harshness that comes from fear. "The strategy of the poor," as they show, "was to be conspicuous, pushing their

smelly and objectionable bodies about on little trolleys as they got in the way of decent folk."

They became the Roman equivalent of our indigent homeless living in cardboard boxes on The Strand. Fortunately Rome was the centre of Christianity, and the Pope instituted a network of hospitals for incurables throughout Italy.

Since the onset of the Aids epidemic in the 1980s there have been many books on the social and medical history of sexually transmitted diseases written with the hope that an understanding of the past would help to inform our assessment of contemporary health problems. One significance of *The Great Pox* is that Aids is no longer the commanding preoccupation; its authors allow only six words in more than 300 pages to Aids, instead their story of the systematic brutalisation of the poor and dispossessed shows that in one respect at least, plus ça change.

Richard Davenport-Hines's *Sex, Death and Punishment* was published by Fontana, priced £7.99.

More struggle, less uplift

Michael Hofmann

SURSUM CORDA
The Collected Letters of Malcolm Lowry
Volume II, 1946-57
Edited by Sherill E. Grace
Cape, £40
ISBN 0 224 03291 7

LIKE history proper, literary history is mainly concerned with winners: Joyce ending *Ulysses* with "yes" and burning 14 lb of leftover notes; Proust reminiscing about his "lost time" in the salons of the Nineties; at worst, it is Max Brod's decision to disregard the dying wishes of his friend Franz Kafka and to preserve his manuscripts for posterity.

In the life of Malcolm Lowry, though, what you get is the perspective of the heroic loser, related on an epic scale in the *Letters*. The first volume, brought out 18 months ago, covers the years to 1946; now the second covers the last decade of his life. Anyone interested in Lowry, or wanting to understand more about the hope, luck and determination needed to drive a literary career, should invest in these two volumes. But be warned — for all that the Latin *sursum corda*, a regular signing-off of Lowry's, means "lift up your hearts", they are often painful reading.

Broadly, the years up until 1946 show Lowry struggling to write, improve, finish and sell *Under the Volcano*, his one astounding masterpiece; the years from 1947 show him trying to get over his publication ("the beastly book seemed to go off like a hundred skyrocketed at once, and I am still trying to dodge the sparks and sticks"), and to gather himself for one more concerted literary endeavour. It was not to be. When he died "by misadventure" — a charitable coroner — he had nothing in print in English.

SHARPENING his struggle with himself, his alcoholism, and the huge world beyond were the circumstances in which he chose to fight it, living with his wife Margerie in a shack on an inlet near Vancouver. With a stove but no heater, it got so cold that the typewriter froze, and the Lowrys wore the same clothes for weeks at a time.

The letters he wrote from there — the physical circum-



Albert Finney in the film of *Under the Volcano*

stances exacerbated by repeated financial disappointment, bad luck and mishaps like broken back and varicose veins — were never less than courteous, humorous and punctilious, even when they were begging for money. Having nothing else to be generous with, his letters became the vehicle of his inborn generosity. They ramble for page after page, postscript after postscript, offering time, encouragement and even money to correspondents who were better off for all of these than Lowry ever was himself.

Under the Volcano was such an exceptional book that I think he had no idea of how to write anything else. He tried to do it by charm and by the seat of his pants, and when that failed he had nothing left. He saw himself — absolutely accurately — as a man on a raft, ignored by passing freighters but inclined to blame himself for that. Read these letters, and learn about the attention of a great book.

Plunged in the depths

Dominic Bradbury

THE UNDERGROUND MAN

By Mick Jackson
Faber, £15.99
ISBN 0 300 06934 4

BLESS THE THIEF

By Alan Wall
Secker & Warburg, £15.99
ISBN 0 436 20388 7

Too often you will pick up a first novel only to find you are reading semi-distilled outpourings from a writer so consumed by the terrifying job of just getting the story down that the book emerges unrefined. But with debut novels from the lecturer and short film director Mick Jackson, and the poet and now novelist Alan Wall, their ideas read as if they have been flowing around their minds for years, acquiring flavours, depths and a touch of dark, bitter sediment.

Mick Jackson's *The Underground Man* is soaked through with originality and expertly written: tragicomic fiction with the most endearingly sympathetic of anti-heroes. The 5th Duke of Portland, William John Cavendish-Bentinck-Scott, was a Victorian misfit, a man who spent his time and money creating a network of tunnels underneath his Nottinghamshire estate, Welbeck Abbey.

Jackson's version of the duke is of an elderly man obsessed by his own corporeality and mortality, trying to make sense of his past. Local gossips describe the solitary duke as deranged or deformed; Jackson uncovers the warmth of characters haunted by failure and lost love. On the edge of senility or madness, the duke is an eccentric, a

hypochondriac and a faddist, torn between superstition and science, quick to try all the quick remedies he can. Mostly keeping himself to a few rooms, but taken to roaming around the house searching for half-remembered memories, the duke is a lonely, childlike castaway in his own vast home. But he is as inquisitive as he is naive, and his lucid meditations betray the depths of *The Underground Man*. As he finally realises that it is his head — not his body — that is at fault, the duke's explorations mirror his desperate attempts to make sense of the alleyways of his own mind.

In many ways Alan Wall's protagonist in *Bless The Thief* is on a similar search for his own identity, and as susceptible as the duke to obsession. But Tom Lynch is a very

different kind of character: the artist as troubled young man. Having lost his father in the 1937 *Hindenburg* air disaster, he is all but abandoned by his mother who sends him off to a school on the edge of the Yorkshire moors. Like his father before him, Tom is taken up by the school's headmaster and introduced into the secretive Delaquer Society.

A 19th-century Parisian book illustrator, Delaquer worked on the principle that reproduction destroyed the unique value of any work of art. So he produced just one copy of each book that he illustrated; to own one of the books is to be a member of the society, dedicated to the ideal of preventing mass publication. Studying art at Oxford in the Fifties, Tom is drawn further into Delaquer's world and begins spiralling downwards, as he begins to live a life of alcoholism, artistry, debauchery.

As Tom disintegrates, so he gradually uncovers the secrets of his own provenance, and the novel becomes a multi-layered book threaded with complex arguments over art, religion and literature. On the one hand *Bless The Thief* is an uneasy, intellectual read, on the other there are touches of melodrama: that it all remains compelling is testament to Wall's talents.

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

Save £2 on Anne Frank: *The Diary of a Young Girl* published by Viking (RRP £16) only £14 to Times readers

- Order any book reviewed or featured in *The Times*
- You can buy ANY English-language book currently in print
- FREE postage and packing in the UK
- Delivery in 7-10 days, subject to availability
- 24-hour service. Staff available 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm Saturday, and 10am to 4pm Sunday.

CALL: 0345 660 916

Call +44 980 134 459 from overseas and the Republic of Ireland, fax +44 1326 374 888, e-mail: bookshop@the-times.co.uk

Standard tariffs apply to fax, Republic of Ireland and overseas calls

Or post coupon to: News Books, FREEPOST, PO Box 345, Falmouth, TR11 2BR.

Please send me these books (order additional titles on a separate sheet):

City _____ Title/Author _____ Total Price _____

Surname _____ Initial _____ Title _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel _____

I enclose cheque/PO(s) payable to NEWS BOOKS for a total of £ _____

Please write your name and address on the back of all cheques

Debit my Mastercard/Visa/AmEx, Switch or Delta account no: _____

Print Name _____ Expiry Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

For Republic of Ireland and overseas orders add 20% to total book cost. Delivery is by air in Europe, surface to rest of world. (Airmail outside Europe add 35%.)

The suggested retail price of a book can be subject to change by the publisher without prior notice. Tick box if you prefer not to receive details of other offers

CREDIT AVAILABLE TO ANYONE AGED 18 OR OVER SUBJECT TO STATUS A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED WITH FIRST ORDER

NEW AUTHORS
PUBLISH YOUR WORK
ALL SUBMITTIONS
WELCOME
MINI-REVIEWS
AVAILABLE
ON REQUEST

POWER, POLITICS AND PROSE: A PRE-INAUGURAL LOOK AT AMERICA IN PRINT

Truths no longer self-evident

Max Beloff examines claims of America's decline

No topic could be of greater importance than the role the United States has played in world politics over the past half century, the subject of Professor White's massive tome, nor can anyone anywhere fail to be interested in an analysis of the decline in America's cultural and educational standards, so painfully reminiscent of our own plight in these islands, which is the subject of the rather bizarre collection of essays collected under the title *Dumbing Down*—an expression apparently current in the United States.

Professor White has set himself to explain why the apparent American domination of the world scene politically, militarily, economically and even culturally in the years immediately after the victories of 1945 has given way to a situation where the United States finds itself no more than a single player on the world stage, and, except in the narrowly military sense, very much on the defensive. Had his frame of reference not concluded with the initiation of the Gulf War and had he been able to take into account the setbacks to American policy in relation to Bosnia, the Gulf, Somalia and the Africa of the Great Lakes, he might have had to exclude the military aspect as well.

The relative decline of American power and influence over these years, despite the collapse of the only serious rival for super-power status—the Soviet Union—is not a new theme and has exercised the minds not only of historians such as Paul Kennedy but of some of the participants in these events, notably Henry Kissinger. But Professor White has an approach to the problem which is at least original.

For him what matters is the country's relations with the rest of the world is not the measurable relations of power, nor the ability of statesmen to take the right decisions, but the governing myths of the time. At the end of the Second World War, the United States was in a position to choose between two such myths, one a perpetuation of its temporary hegemony through military power, the other the acceptance of "cosmopolitan internationalism", that is to say the merging of American strength into the operations of international institutions to the benefit of the world community as a whole. It was an ideology espoused by Henry Wallace and by the more constructive critics of the later New Left.

The wrong choice was made by President Truman and Dean Acheson and their supporters in the establishment "consensus". The country embarked on a programme of military expenditure, using up resources that could otherwise have been spent on tackling domestic problems, spanning the world in a series of alliances as part of the containment of Soviet communism, regarded as the sole threat to the well-being of the United States. All ended in tears with the Vietnam War, which revealed that another more powerful emotion—Third World nationalism—presented an alternative challenge to American hegemony. First the war itself and then defeat challenged the national consensus, and produced a

THE AMERICAN CENTURY
The Rise and Decline of the United States as a World Power
By Donald W. White
Yale, £25
ISBN 0 300 05721 0

DUMBING DOWN
Essays on the Strip Mining of American Culture
Edited by Katharine Washburn and John F. Thornton
Norton, £17.95
ISBN 0 393 03829 7

country more divided internally than at any period of its post-Civil War history. The Reagan presidency was a throwback to the era of the domination of policy by the "military industrial complex" and was only saved from ignominy by the concurrent but not consequential decline in the direct Soviet threat.

Since Professor White gives precedence to "myths" or ideas, he is consistent in his choice of sources. Actual events are of little interest. Treaties and diplomatic documents are not analysed, and the disposition of United States forces and civilian missions not given more than perfunctory consideration. Apart from the dicta of Presidents and Secretaries of State the book is almost wholly based on the American press, including in particular the weekly and monthly magazines which are seen to be the best reflection of what ordinary Americans thought.

Professor White's approach suffers from two obvious weaknesses. Relations between any single country, even a major one, and the rest of the world are not the product of "myths", but of a series of decisions taken from time to time by the country's authorities. Professor White's approach is to ignore the actual and to focus on the myth, and not only in the United States but in the rest of the world. He needs to understand the internal process through which decision makers come to hold their positions, the experience and training they have acquired en route and the institutions through which they have to work. It is a long time since Tocqueville asked the key question—are the institutions of the United States, so favourable to its internal prosperity, suited to manage relations with foreign countries?

Since Professor White dismisses the wider claims of the New Left that some kind of conspiracy was at work, it is all the more incumbent upon him to look at the "imperial presidency", at Congress and at the political parties, before assuming that one can offer any plausible explanation of the course of events. Communist insurgency in Malaysia was defeated while its counterpart in Vietnam was successful—does that not suggest some investigation into military doctrines and political analysis is of equal importance to hegemonic myths?

The second and even greater weakness of this work, and one which gives a new meaning to "neo-isolationism" derives from the fact that a country's foreign policy cannot be divorced from its context. Not merely does White not try to see the United States through the eyes of non-Americans—for his views on what this image may be he



America the beautiful? Eric Drooker illustrates Allen Ginsburg's *Illuminated Poems* (Turnaround, £12.99)

relies wholly on the reporting of American journalists—but he does not even attempt to assess the outlook and expectations of America's principal foreign interlocutors. In an enormous bibliography of some 400 authors, only some half dozen are non-Americans, and most of these expatriates.

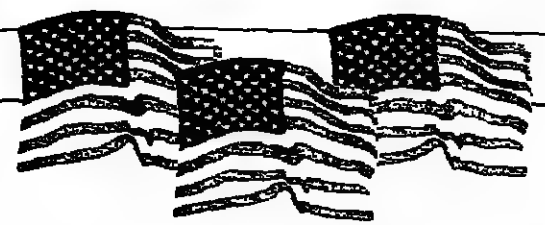
Given the significance of the Cold War, some understanding of the Soviet Union is surely a prerequisite for judging United States policy. Professor White maintains that had the United States been willing to "internationalise" the Marshall Plan, the Soviet Union would have been prepared to fall in with the idea and peacefully become part of a single international community. Such a claim involves interpreting Soviet as well as American "myths" in a radical new way. Even the historical revisionists to whom Professor White gives more credence than is their due do not normally go that far.

If Russia is remote, what about Western Europe? Here Professor White is no less at sea. He repeats with some relish his view that Britain is a country in decline with no

hope other than tagging along with the successful economies of its continental neighbours. One can either agree or disagree with this conventional American view. But when he goes on to claim that the European Union already conducts a single foreign policy and is thus another great power, one can only wonder what he knows of current issues. An aspiration perhaps, but not reality.

Dumbing Down gives some of the answers—up to a point—inadvertently. What is clear from all the evidence on the educational side is that most Americans are being brought up like Professor White to believe that America is all they need know about—the simplest facts about the geography and history, let alone the beliefs and cultures of the rest of the world, hardly figure, despite talk of "multiculturalism". No wonder science and the arts have a hard time. Professor White wants not *The American Century* but the "Century of the Common Man"—a very common man, one fears.

Lord Beloff's *Britain and The European Union* is published by Macmillan, priced £14.99.



Where the sun don't shine

Peter Stothard

MY FAVOURITE WAR
By Christopher John Farley
Granita Books, £8.99
ISBN 1 85307 002 4

Thurgood Brinkman is a successful Washingtonian black male who is not quite successful enough. He is a journalist but not on *The Washington Post*; he is an Ivy League graduate whose contemporaries are already top television producers or fashionable Prozac novelists. He wants to be a Hemingway or a Raymond Carver but instead he writes "trend features" for the *National Now!*, a paper bearing certain similarities to America's only mass-market national daily, *USA Today*.

The year is 1991 and the biggest black success in Washington is General Luther Pinpoint, a figure bearing equally certain similarities to General Colin Powell. It seems for a while as though the Gulf War is going to give Thurgood his big break. Just when "the youthful emerald of his salad days was becoming an ugly jealous green" he gets the chance to go to Dahran with Sojourner Truth Zapader, the *Post's* star female black columnist.

He first jibes at the idea of being Ms Zapader's assistant and researcher: "How come it's always the black man who's asked to take two steps down to take a step up?" But then he contemplates his part in the post-one-night-stand pregnancy of his sister's boyfriend's sister. His white housemates, led by a self-styled presidential speech-writer, have run up massive bills and left him with the landlady. And then there is his *National Now!* job. "Imagine a coughing, wheezing wino with a mucus-filled nose, open skin sores and syphilis. Now imagine this man is 33 stories tall. Now imagine crawling into this man's urethra every morning at 9am and reporting to work in his colon. Now you know what it's like working at *National Now!*"

So Thurgood goes to war, where he has none of the luck of the usual post-Scoop fictional misfits. He "exchanges United States imprisonment in a Saudi hotel room for Iraqi imprisonment in a Baghdad hotel room and never manages to file a story. The only advantage he gains

during the birth of George Bush's New World Order is that his successful contemporaries sink back to his own low level of achievement. After a brush with a friendly landmine our hero is flown back home to find the *National Now!*'s door closed and that the only available job for him is on a suburban ad-sheet called the *Fall's Church Squatter*.

My Favourite War is frequently a funny book and only occasionally a silly one. Its mockery of literary pretensions is amusing even in the passages where the author is trying to be a bit of an intellectual himself. For those of us who spent the Gulf War in Washington, Farley evokes the crazy-seriousness of those days, the means by which the media were mobilised behind the American forces and the fundamental forces and the fundamental forces of America's capital.

It is a journalist's novel—satirical, episodic and sketched characterised—which is also about journalists. Reporters fight over scarce computer screens. John Rawls meets John Lennon on the information superhighway. Feature writers try vainly to turn some triviality that happened to the Editor into a style story for the zeitgeist.

In the same way it is a novel of and about the young, black American middle class. Thurgood's parents had sweating white kids to mow their lawn. They gave their kids "none of that I'm pathological, you're pathological, we-all-know-how-the-cagebird-sings bullshit that the media loves to see in black families". However low Thurgood's writing career goes, he knows that his mother will always have his application forms ready for law school.



Farley: scooped

Programmed to self-destruct

Marianne Wiggins

THE LAST THING HE WANTED
By Joan Didion
Famlingo, £15.99
ISBN 0 00 224080 7

JOAN DIDION established a place among her generation of American writers with her debut novel *River Run*, published in 1963. From the start, hers was a voice as distinctive as any of the male proto-styles who followed in her wake in England a decade later. Every seven years or so, through the Seventies and Eighties, she produced another novel, cut from the same dark fabric along the same tight lines. But during those years, too, she kept writing unsentimental edge-of-social-commentary while her peers from the Sixties, notably Norman Mailer, laminated their political calling cards to slip in the back of their fiction.



Didion: unsentimental

Didion has always been in a fug with her native material, bullying it like an Apache dancer—but she's never abandoned it. The homes she always tries to run away from are suburban Californian or, as she puts it, sitting in some other "forlorn tropical zone" on the American horizon. Her characters are notably short-fused ciphers whose only definition is in self-destruction. Even before the absurd vulgarity of Reagan's Un-California

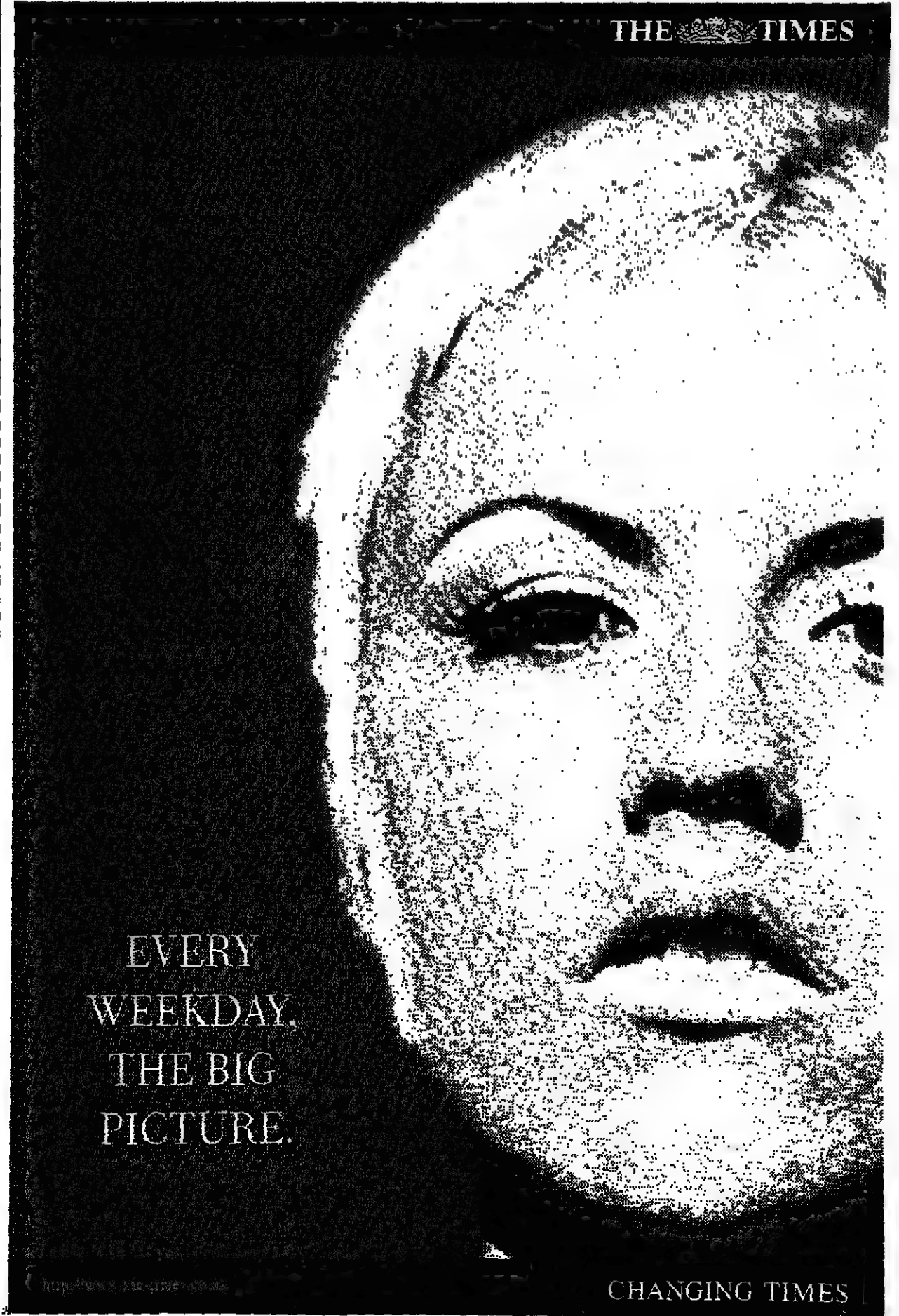
nian presidency, it was inevitable that Didion's political bite would infect her fiction. And now in *The Last Thing He Wanted* it fully and finally has.

Regardless of what she names them, I always call Didion's heroines Renée, from the song *Just Walk Away, Renée*, because that's what they do. And, symbolic of the unreality she sees in modern American life, the first thing a Didion woman does is walk into a life not her own and began to live it, a casual and careless casualty.

This one's called Elena, and the year is 1984. The place is somewhere south of Florida in "our lake", as one United States Government character calls the Caribbean. What is going on is the illegal, but unofficially sanctioned, arming of the Contras. The front man on the supply line is Dick McMahon, Elena's 70-year-old father. When he suffers a heart attack, Elena walks into the role—until, with her newfound lover, she self-destructs.

"It is hard now to call up the particular luridly of 1984," Didion writes, "the counterfeit machismo of it... Many people appear to have chosen during this period to identify themselves as something other than what they were... This was a period during which many people appear to have known that the way to fly undetected over foreign coastlines was with cash, to buy a window."

As in all of Didion's novels, all the people who "appear to have known" are men—men "who could pick up the telephone and affect the Dow." Conversely, what Didion's heroines do is affect an emptiness at the centre into which everything fatally drains. Yes, she gives us much the same novel each time. Yes, she is unimpaired. But this is her tireless genius: while the others abandon the field, she keeps watch. Her novels accuse the movers and shakers. You are killing my women, they say. You are killing yourselves. And you are draining our nation.



EVERY
WEEKDAY
THE BIG
PICTURE.

CHANGING TIMES

Bargains of the week — from a four-day shopping spree in Toronto to cookery classes on a Greek island

HOLIDAYS

STANFORD Skiing has a luxury chalet in Argentiére with views of Mont Blanc available from this Sunday and next from £299 a person self-drive, £440 with flight. Accommodation also available in Megève next week. Details: 0171 242074.

SKIING in the French Alps for a week from £89 a person, based on four sharing self-catering accommodation, with a flight from Gatwick on Saturday is the cheapest of many late availability deals from First Choice Ski this weekend. Details: 0990 557755.

FUERTEVENTURA for £169 a person for a fortnight's self-catering with a flight from Gatwick next Tuesday is on offer from Page & Moy. Details: 0116 2507116.

TORONTO for a four-day shopping spree from Bales Tours with Saturday departures from Heathrow starting on January 25. First-class bed and breakfast accommodation and city tour included. Details: 01306 876867.

CYPRUS is available for £145 a person for a fortnight's self-catering with a flight from Gatwick on January 25 from Portland Direct. Details: 0990 002200.

INDIAN tours at a 10 per cent discount are available in February from Cox & Kings, with prices starting at £1,255 for a fortnight's Splendours of the East tour, and a 16-day Rural Rajasthan trip. Flights, bed and breakfast accommodation and sightseeing included. Details: 0171 873 5000.

SOUTH AFRICAN trips are on special offer in February and March from Virgin Holidays with six nights in Cape Town, car hire and return flights costing from £819 a person, and a similar deal in Durban from £939. Child discounts available. Details: 01293 017181.

THREE nights for the price of two are available from many Bruges hotels featured in the Belgian City Breaks brochure, with prices starting from £96 a person including ferry crossing, and from £105 by Eurostar. Details: 01992 456156.

COOKERY courses in Greece at a saving of £100 if booked by the end of the month are available from Candilli. The discounted cost is £550 a person and includes full-board accommodation on an estate on Evia, excursions to and from Athens but not flights to Greece. Details: 01580 766595.

FLIGHTS

BRITISH Airways has a £59 return sale on most domestic routes when you book 14 days ahead and include a Saturday night stay. Routes covered include those between London and Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Jersey, Manchester and Newcastle. Details: 0345 222111.

MEMBERS of American Airlines frequent flyer scheme can now earn points on all British Midland flights. Details: 0181 572 5555.

PASSENGERS flying Debonair from Luton (the airline serves Rome, Barcelona, Madrid, Copenhagen, Düsseldorf and Munich) can take along a companion for £50. Details: 0500 146200.

BOOK before February 15 and a Virgin Mega Saver to Boston, New York or Washington DC costs £179. Details: 01293 747747.

AIR UK from London City to Rotterdam or Edinburgh costs £49 return provided you stay away for two nights. Details: 0345 666777.

RYANAIR has a Friends Fly Free deal between the UK and Ireland. One passenger pays from £99 return, with companions flying free. Details: 0541 569569.



Peak practice: admire stunning views of Mont Blanc from a luxury chalet in the ski resort of Argentiére

FERRIES

LE SHUTTLE has yet to publish summer fares but has prices available until March 31. Day trips cost £59, a five-day return £69, and a standard return £129. Bookable through Eurodrive. Details: 0181 324 4000.

NORSE Irish Ferries has special offers on its Belfast-Liverpool route. Foot passengers can take a day return for £59, £69 for a three-day return or £99 (single fare) for a car and up to four passengers. Details: 01232 779090.

SEA France has revised fares to £89 return for standard crossings to February 28 for a car and four passengers (£95 for up to eight passengers). The fare drops to £75 for Sunday-Thursday travel (£3 per extra passenger). Details: 0990 717171.

STENA Line is selling five-day returns for a car and up to four passengers on Harwich-Hook of Holland for £94 until May 17 (night crossings, £154). A standard return costs £176 (£240). Details: 0990 707070.

WIGHTLINK Ferries has fares starting from £30 return on Portsmouth-Fishbourne until March 26 (excluding March 23-24). Bookable through Eurodrive. Details: 0181 324 4000.

HOTELS

DISCOUNTS of up to 30 per cent are offered by Hilton International as part of its Winter World of Savings promotion at 135 hotels worldwide until the end of February. The special rates are available seven days a week, and upgrades can be obtained for a small supplement. Prices per room per night start from £61 on the Continent and £56 in the UK. Details: 0800 856 8000.

THE Birmingham Grand Moat House offers discounted rates at the Tamworth Snowdome, an indoor skiing slope, for guests staying two nights until March. Price is £98 per person half-board during the week, and £106 at weekends. Details: 0800 123221.

FREE mobile phone hire is available for guests staying at the Grosvenor House Hotel in central London from this week, although insurance is charged at £1.75 a day. Details: 0171 499 6363.

SHERATON is offering a two-night golfing package at its Excelior and Des Bains luxury hotels in Venice from March 15 until May 31. Rates, including green fees and transportation to and from the golf club, are from £225 for a single room and £330 double. Details: 0800 353535.

A POULTRY and seasonal game masterclass is being held on February 20 at Hunstrete House Hotel, near Bath, under the guidance of head chef Robert Clayton. Cost is £62 for the afternoon, while rooms are £95 a night single or £120 for two people sharing. Details: 01761 490490.

LEADING Hotels Of The World has launched a free brochure, Great Affordables, which details non-peak special offers at 159 of its hotels. Details: 0800 181123.

SPEND Valentine's night at Woodlands Park Hotel, Cobham, Surrey, where Lillie Langtry reportedly had regular trysts with Edward, Prince of Wales. The accommodation plus a dinner and Valentine's present costs £80 per person. Details: 01372 843933.

REGAL Hotels has launched its Leisure Options brochure of short breaks at 82 UK hotels, ranging from country house properties to coaching inns. Details: 0345 334400.

HOTEL L'Horizon in Jersey has a three-night package until the end of February available from Tuesday to Saturday at £250 per person, including dinner, beauty spa treatments and car hire. Details: 01534 43101.

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 481 1989

CHECK-IN

FAX:
0171 782 7824

BEST OFFERS!

Best Premium Class Offers from American Airlines

From	To	Price
London	Los Angeles	£299
London	New York	£199
London	San Francisco	£399
London	Hong Kong	£599
London	Tokyo	£499
London	Singapore	£499
London	Bangkok	£399
London	Manila	£399
London	Seoul	£499
London	Beijing	£599
London	Shanghai	£599
London	Guangzhou	£599
London	Chengdu	£599
London	Yantai	£599
London	Qingdao	£599
London	Harbin	£599
London	Urumqi	£599
London	Kashgar	£599
London	Lhasa	£599
London	Delhi	£399
London	Mumbai	£399
London	Colombo	£399
London	Perth	£399
London	Sydney	£399
London	Melbourne	£399
London	Auckland	£399
London	Wellington	£399
London	Christchurch	£399
London	Dunedin	£399
London	Queenstown	£399
London	Invercargill	£399
London	Timaru	£399
London	Christchurch	£399
London	Dunedin	£399
London	Queenstown	£399
London	Invercargill	£399
London	Timaru	£399

GO PREMIUM CLASS!! 0171 636 3055

Air Vacations

OVER 200 DIFFERENT USA DESTINATIONS. FLYDRIVE, SPECIAL WEEKEND BREAKS, HOTELS & FLIGHTS. CALL FOR DETAILS TODAY.

From	To	Price
London	Los Angeles	£299
London	New York	£199
London	San Francisco	£399
London	Hong Kong	£599
London	Tokyo	£499
London	Singapore	£499
London	Bangkok	£399
London	Manila	£399
London	Seoul	£499
London	Beijing	£599
London	Shanghai	£599
London	Guangzhou	£599
London	Chengdu	£599
London	Yantai	£599
London	Qingdao	£599
London	Harbin	£599
London	Urumqi	£599
London	Kashgar	£599
London	Lhasa	£599
London	Delhi	£399
London	Mumbai	£399
London	Colombo	£399
London	Perth	£399
London	Sydney	£399
London	Melbourne	£399
London	Auckland	£399
London	Wellington	£399
London	Christchurch	£399
London	Dunedin	£399
London	Queenstown	£399
London	Invercargill	£399
London	Timaru	£399

0171 828 1137

JUST AMERICA

For the widest choice of escorted coach and self-drive tours, motorhomes, Florida, Bahamas and Canadian holidays call Just America. Specialists in tailor-made quality holidays to North America.

Tauca Tours
We are now offering 1997 Tauca Tours. Great tours - at the best prices.

Motorhomes
Special offer 3 weeks for the price of 1. For the best advice, call the experts - Just America.

01730 266588

GREAT DEALS

Europe - £179
Worldwide - £299

LUPUS TRAVEL LTD
0171 306 3000
01892 553500

FARESAVERS

ALICANTE £69
MALAGA £69
MADRID £69
MURCIA £69
SEVILLE £69
VALENCIA £69

01476 578913

AIRLINK Worldwide

Escorted tours to all major cities. Special offers on flights and hotels. Call for details.

0171 713 7773

ICARUS FLIGHTS

Special offers on flights to all major cities. Call for details.

0171 713 7773

JETLINE

Special offers on flights to all major cities. Call for details.

0171 713 7773

FLIGHT WORLD

Special offers on flights to all major cities. Call for details.

0171 713 7773

EMBASSY FLIGHT CENTRE

Special offers on flights to all major cities. Call for details.

0171 713 7773

British Midland

The Airline for Europe

0345 554554 OR 0345 I FLY BM

EUROPEAN/WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS

From	To	Price
London	Los Angeles	£299
London	New York	£199
London	San Francisco	£399
London	Hong Kong	£599
London	Tokyo	£499
London	Singapore	£499
London	Bangkok	£399
London	Manila	£399
London	Seoul	£499
London	Beijing	£599
London	Shanghai	£599
London	Guangzhou	£599
London	Chengdu	£599
London	Yantai	£599
London	Qingdao	£599
London	Harbin	£599
London	Urumqi	£599
London	Kashgar	£599
London	Lhasa	£599
London	Delhi	£399
London	Mumbai	£399
London	Colombo	£399
London	Perth	£399
London	Sydney	£399
London	Melbourne	£399
London	Auckland	£399
London	Wellington	£399
London	Christchurch	£399
London	Dunedin	£399
London	Queenstown	£399
London	Invercargill	£399
London	Timaru	£399

0171 625 7660 SEAGULL TRAVELS

TRAILFINDERS

THE TRAVEL EXPERTS

More than just low cost flights worldwide

WITH UP TO 65% DISCOUNT ON HOTELS & CAR HIRE

Call Trailfinders for the complete tailor-made travel service

LONDON Longhaul: 0171-838 3838
Transatlantic & European: 0171-937 5400
First & Business Class: 0171-938 3444
BIRMINGHAM Worldwide: 0121-236 1234
BRISTOL Worldwide: 0117-929 9000
GLASGOW Worldwide: 0141-353 2224
MANCHESTER Worldwide: 0161-639 6809
First & Business Class: 0161-639 3434

CONTACT

FLIGHT SAVINGERS FROM CONTACT WORLDWIDE

From	To	Price
London	Los Angeles	£299
London	New York	£199
London	San Francisco	£399
London	Hong Kong	£599
London	Tokyo	£499
London	Singapore	£499
London	Bangkok	£399
London	Manila	£399
London	Seoul	£499
London	Beijing	£599
London	Shanghai	£599
London	Guangzhou	£599
London	Chengdu	£599
London	Yantai	£599
London	Qingdao	£599
London	Harbin	£599
London	Urumqi	£599
London	Kashgar	£599
London	Lhasa	£599
London	Delhi	£399
London	Mumbai	£399
London	Colombo	£399
London	Perth	£399
London	Sydney	£399
London	Melbourne	£399
London	Auckland	£399
London	Wellington	£399
London	Christchurch	£399
London	Dunedin	£399
London	Queenstown	£399
London	Invercargill	£399
London	Timaru	£399

0115 953 8888

JETWORLD

CHEAPEST FARES AVAILABLE

From	To	Price
London	Los Angeles	£299
London	New York	£199
London	San Francisco	£399
London	Hong Kong	£599
London	Tokyo	£499
London	Singapore	£499
London	Bangkok	£399
London	Manila	£399
London	Seoul	£499
London	Beijing	£599
London	Shanghai	£599
London	Guangzhou	£599
London	Chengdu	£599
London	Yantai	£599
London	Qingdao	£599
London	Harbin	£599
London	Urumqi	£599
London	Kashgar	£599
London	Lhasa	£599
London	Delhi	£399
London	Mumbai	£399
London	Colombo	£399
London	Perth	£399
London	Sydney	£399
London	Melbourne	£399
London	Auckland	£399
London	Wellington	£399
London	Christchurch	£399
London	Dunedin	£399
London	Queenstown	£399
London	Invercargill	£399
London	Timaru	£399

01273 730930

LATE HOLIDAY BARGAINS

ALL DESTINATIONS THE AIR LINE

0990 143311 or 0161 6270099

benz

NEW YORK £160
HONG KONG £429

0171 494 2333

InterEUROPE

FLIGHT CENTRE

From	To	Price
London	Los Angeles	£299
London	New York	£199
London	San Francisco	£399
London	Hong Kong	£599
London	Tokyo	£499
London	Singapore	£499
London	Bangkok	£399
London	Manila	£399
London	Seoul	£499
London	Beijing	£599
London	Shanghai	£599
London	Guangzhou	£599
London	Chengdu	£599
London	Yantai	£599
London	Qingdao	£599
London	Harbin	£599
London	Urumqi	£599
London	Kashgar	£599
London	Lhasa	£599
London	Delhi	£399
London	Mumbai	£399
London	Colombo	£399
London	Perth	£399
London	Sydney	£399
London	Melbourne	£399
London	Auckland	£399
London	Wellington	£399
London	Christchurch	£399
London	Dunedin	£399
London	Queenstown	£399
London	Invercargill	£399
London	Timaru	£399

0171 828 1090

WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS

0171 72 72 72

NEW ZEALAND

FLY £566

0171 72 72 72

MAJOR USA

Prices from CALIFORNIA £255
DENVER £255
NEW YORK £169
BOSTON £170
FLORIDA £210
CAROLINAS £180

0171 485 7017

KENYA SPECIALISTS

For Tailor-made Safari, Kenya, Zanzibar, etc. Flights

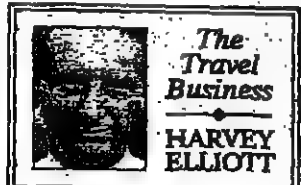
0181-840-8881

Do your sums on insurance

Even before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation into Britain's package holiday industry has got under way properly, it is clear that the focus will be on insurance.

Insurance cover dominated discussion in preliminary probing by the Office of Fair Trading. Other issues, such as the ownership of integrated groups of travel agencies, airlines and tour operators, grabbed the headlines but they pale in comparison with the obvious fact that additional costs are foisted on gullible customers.

But is the practice as bad as it seems? Is it better to opt for the insurance included in the total package or to buy it independently? On first scrutiny it would appear that there is a case for buying your own insurance, or taking advan-



age of that which many credit-card companies offer free if you use them to book.

Research by General Accident Direct shows that insurance bought with a holiday costs twice as much as the same policy bought from an insurance company.

For a family of four spending two summer weeks in Spain, travel agents quoted £115.32 compared with £43.06 for the same policy bought independently.

Travel agents make money by providing insurance cover, which enables them to offer discounts. The cost of a good insurance cover for two weeks in Spain is about £30 per head. But because the big travel agencies sell such policies to as many as 90 per cent of their clients, they get the cover for £10 a head. The £20 difference is then used to offer early booking discounts averaging around 10 per cent.

Lunn Poly, Britain's biggest travel agency, calculated the cost for two adults and two children booking two weeks in Puerto Pollensa, Mallorca, on August 3, from a First Choice brochure.

Family A would pay £1,825.20 for the holiday, plus £115 for the Lunn Poly insurance. Because insurance was included in the package, they qualified for a 10 per cent discount on the holiday price, making the final bill £1,758.04.

Family B, making their own insurance arrangements or paying on a credit card which offered free insurance, would pay the basic £1,825.20. Those taking out direct insurance cover would pay a further £43.06, making a total of £1,868.26.

Family A would make a significant saving which may no longer be available if travel agents are forbidden to offer inclusive insurance. It is likely that the commission will recommend changes in the way that insurance is provided. We can only urge them, in their effort to "regularise" the business, not to do anything to swell the number of people who go on holiday without insurance cover, which stands at a worrying 10 per cent.

Tony Dawe reports on a world travel summit to boost employment and David Churchill looks at plans for Stonehenge

Industry sets target of 100 million new jobs

TRAVEL industry chiefs will discuss their "millennium vision" of creating 100 million new jobs in the industry worldwide at a summit meeting this weekend in the Algarve.

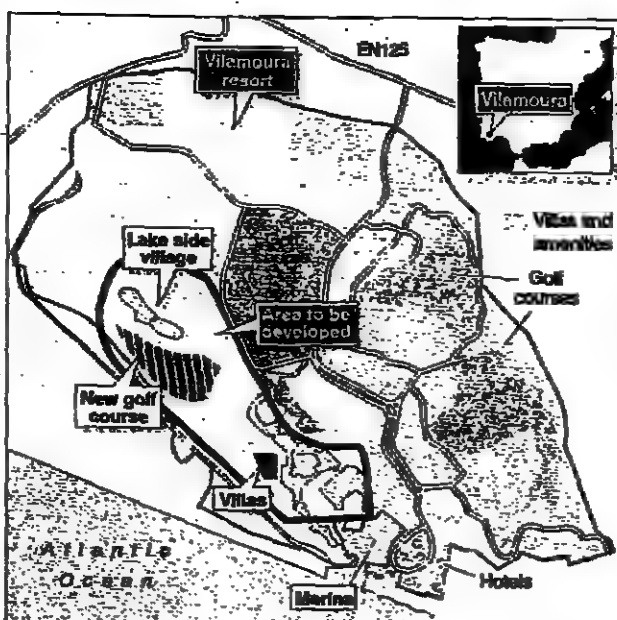
The meeting is at the resort of Vilamoura which aims to become "Europe's largest and most exciting leisure development" by the start of the 21st century. The plans for Vilamoura, already the largest of three Portuguese resorts developed from scratch, reflect the ambitions of the World Travel and Tourism Council which will be aired at the summit starting tomorrow.

The Vilamoura XXI project includes two new golf courses, an extra marina, a lakeside village and clusters of villas and apartments. The developers hope it will reawaken the interest of British tourists in the Algarve.

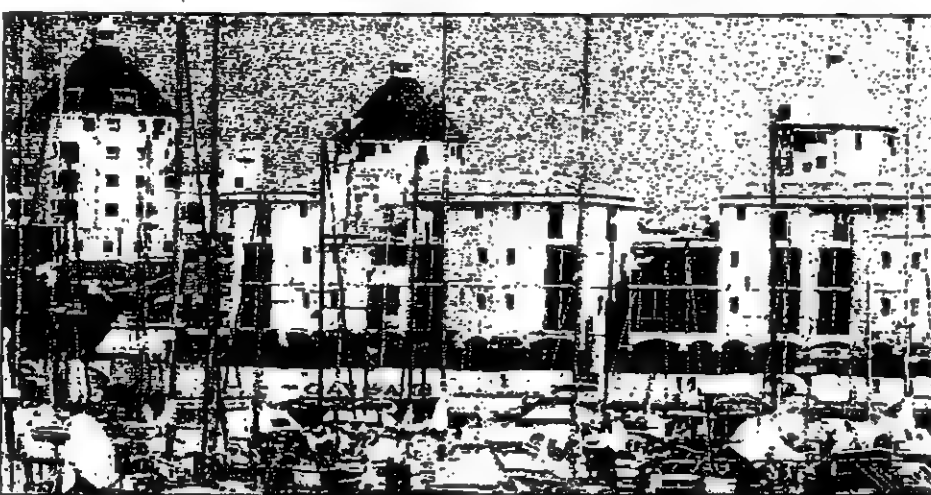
The tourism council, comprising more than 80 industry leaders, aims to encourage similar developments across the world and to press for more liberal "open skies" aviation policies and free trade, all of which will help ease unemployment.

"We can create millions of new jobs by opening up travel markets," says Geoffrey Lippman, the council president. "Travel and tourism drives more than 250 million jobs today across the world economy. We forecast a 40 per cent increase over the next decade as business and leisure demand consistently outpaces the general economy."

A report to be presented to the summit says that the concept of 100 million new jobs is ambitious yet achievable. "Travel spending and investment not only creates millions of jobs directly, but



also acts as a catalyst for employment in a myriad of other industries which support or supply travellers and travel companies," it says. Job opportunities will be created in industries ranging from air traffic control to hotel construction; from financial services to cruise-ship building; from farming to clothing manufacture and from telecommunications to retail trade.



Vilamoura: plans to improve villas, golf courses and other leisure facilities. See map top

communications to retail trade.

André Jordan, chairman of the group which will be developing Vilamoura, says: "We focus on sustainable development, quality, local employment and training, and hope that our ideas can prove useful worldwide."

His plans will be studied closely by British tour operators who have been concerned that the existing resort, which can accommodate 35,000 tourists and is larger than Monaco, was beginning to look and feel "tired".

Since acquiring a major holding in the resort last year, the André Jordan group has retained one of three golf courses and begun work to improve the appearance of the resort.

"The new project is a major challenge," says Gilberto Jordan, André Jordan's son. "We want to set new standards of design and provide a low-density mix of condominiums, clubs and individual villas, and also provide leisure facilities to suit everyone."



Stonehenge: the site is one of the most important megalithic monuments in Europe

Flintstone theme park

PLANS to build a Disney-style visitor attraction close to Stonehenge in time for the millennium celebrations are to be unveiled soon by English Heritage and the Tussauds Group, whose attractions include Madame Tussaud's in London and the Alton Towers theme park in Staffordshire.

The £42 million visitor complex is expected to include a number of sophisticated attractions showing the background and development of the prehistoric site on Salisbury Plain, one of the most important megalithic monuments in Europe and designated a World Heritage Site.

The concept, which is still being finalised, could include audio-animatronic displays of Stonehenge under construction, to provide the anticipated two million tourists with a

practical idea of how it was constructed, roughly between 2500 and 1500BC.

The visitor complex will be located more than two miles from the stones and will be built mainly underground, with shops, restaurants and space for 3,000 cars.

Blending the complex into the landscape will be important, because plans to improve the A303 trunk road which passes the site are already causing an environmental row.

Above ground, the 4,000 acres around the stones are to be returned to something like their natural state, with all signs of modern living removed as far as possible. There will be an underground transport system to take visitors closer to the stones for viewing.

Although the National

Trust, which owns most of the surrounding land, and English Heritage are committed to manage the proposed Millennium Park via the formation of a Stonehenge Trust, the scheme still requires funding from the Millennium Commission's National Lottery resources as part of the Government's private finance initiative.

A final decision is expected this summer and, if the go-ahead is given, construction would start next year for completion in mid-2000.

Michael Jolly, the chief executive of the Tussauds Group, is confident of a sensitive development of the project. He says: "My company has extensive experience of restoring, interpreting, presenting and maintaining listed landscapes and heritage sites."

Sea France fires price-cut salvo

THE BATTLE for early ferry bookings on the Channel heated up this week when Sea France undercut P&O Ferries and Stena Line, its larger rivals, on sailings from Dover, Steve Keenan writes.

The French-owned carrier began a promotion offering any 1997 Dover-Calais crossing, including during school holidays, for £89 for a car and four passengers. Average brochure prices last summer were more than £320 for Friday and Saturday ferry crossings in school holiday weekends.

The move is in retaliation to

P&O, which offers any crossing from Dover for £99, and Stena, which reacted to P&O immediately with a £98 fare. Both the larger companies offer their fares for a car and up to nine passengers. The equivalent Sea France return is £95.

The Dover/Folkestone to Calais routes account for 80 per cent of all cross-Channel travel. Robin Wilkins, Sea France's managing director, pledged to match any lower fare this year. He said: "We are determined to lead the way in cross-Channel fares. The customer can't lose."

BRITANNY Ferries is spending £350,000 on a campaign to persuade Britons to revive their love affair with French gîte holidays. The fading appeal of gîtes saw sales from the biggest company in the market, Gîtes de France, fall from a peak of 100,000 three years ago to 20,000 in 1996.

Now Brittany Ferries has taken over the UK marketing and operations of the company and reduced the number of properties in a new brochure. It has cut prices by up to 47 per cent and is banking on the continuing rise of the pound to assist a turnaround in gîte holidays.

At, for example, £196 for five people for a week in a gîte, including ferry crossings, prices can be cheaper than a camping holiday in France or a UK cottage holiday, claims Brittany Ferries.

Reviving our love for gîte holidays

By Steve Keenan

Its staff have visited the 1,200 gîtes featured, and have designated some as "elite gîtes". Ian Carruthers, managing director of Brittany Ferries, said: "We have been able to make economies so that gîtes are on average 30-40 per cent cheaper."

The campaign will partly focus on the "friendliness" of gîte owners, and promote the range of properties — converted

farm buildings, cottages, old windmills, village houses, mountain chalets and manor houses. Gîte standards have improved as owners invested to stem their losses.

Bruno Leroy, president of Gîtes de France, said: "Some standards did slip but these incidents remain firmly in the past." The deal with Gîtes de France is described as a joint venture. But the London offices of Gîtes de France have been closed and Brittany Ferries has moved operations to Plymouth.

There are separate 1997 brochures for gîtes and holiday homes in France owned by Britons. The Holiday Homes brochure is already running 18 per cent ahead of 1996. And the company expects gîte holidays to reflect 22 per cent of its ferry carryings this year.

Eurocamp offers chance to dream

BRITAIN'S biggest overseas camping operator has acted to heed the demands of frazzled parents taking their children on holiday this summer, Steve Keenan writes.

The scenario of hyperactive children waking their parents at 6am is well known to families taking a two-week holiday in French campsites in Brittany or the Vendée. Now Eurocamp has redesigned 25 per cent of its mobile homes, placing the adults' bedroom 15ft away from the children's bunks, ensuring more peace and quiet, as well as making the beds bigger.

The £1 million redesign is the result of a customer survey by Eurocamp, which sells 100,000 camping and mobile-home holidays a year. Rosie Gerrard, a spokeswoman for the company, said: "Our customers demanded bigger beds and more privacy from their offspring."

More than 400 of the new mobile homes have been located on campsites throughout France and at a handful of sites in Italy. Prices for two-week holidays start at £410, rising to £1,250 in peak periods, for two adults and up to four children.

Mystery of the phantom booking

By Jenny Knight

SOLICITOR Roger Hitch arranged a special treat for his wife Anita's 50th birthday — a weekend in London.

The GoldenRail package cost £563.50, including fares from Chichester, two nights' bed and breakfast and tickets

for Phantom of the Opera and By Jeeves. But when the couple arrived at the Mountbatten Hotel in Monmouth Street, they were told that the hotel was full, given £20 for taxi fares and sent to the Portman Hotel in St Marylebone.

Mr Hitch expressed concern that there may have been

a policy at the Mountbatten to ensure that their rooms were full by accepting bookings while feeling free to sell the rooms for a higher price if the opportunity arose.

"We wanted to stay in Covent Garden within walking distance of the theatres and the restaurant where we

have had arranged to have a Sunday lunch with family."

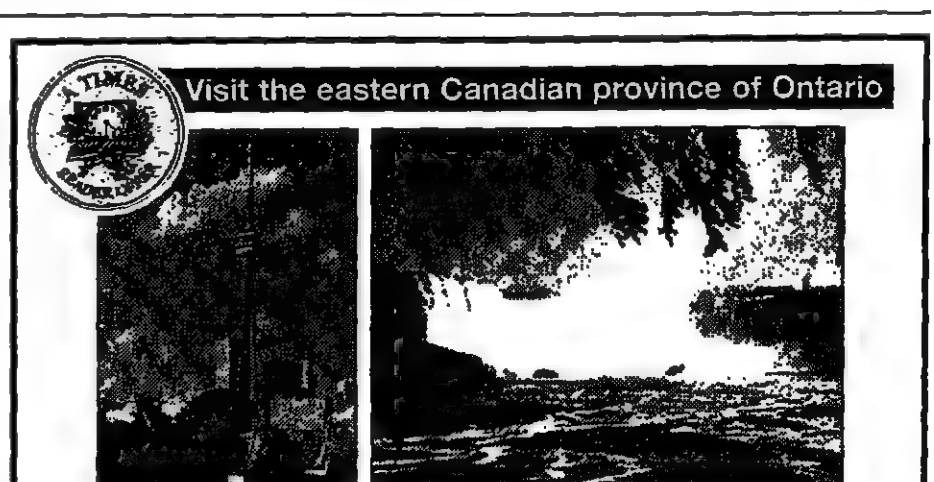
Although Mr Hitch had made his booking more than a month earlier, he was told by the hotel that his reservation had arrived from GoldenRail only a few days earlier.

Mr Hitch wrote to GoldenRail and received £50 in compensation. Customer relations manager Debbie Elliott replied: "I note the hotel advised that they did not receive details until a couple of days before booking. A fax is forwarded to the hotel automatically on the day the reservation is made."

David Bates, managing director of the Radisson Edwardian Hotels, of which Mountbatten is one, says: "It is absurd to suggest that this happened because of a policy to accept other bookings in preference to our weekend-break guests. Weekend breaks are a lucrative market."

"From time to time things go wrong. The tour operators were blameless. We have a policy to offer a better hotel, to make sure the transfer is smoothly accomplished and to offer compensation. We are sorry this happened."

Under the Package Travel Regulations, customers can pull out of contracts without penalty if a major change is made or accept the change and ask for compensation.



Canadian city break

4 nights from £299 per person

Departures throughout February & March 1997

Journey to Canada for a three night stay in Toronto, on the shores of Lake Ontario. This city has many attractions including the CN Tower, which at almost 2,000 feet is the world's tallest free-standing structure. Its observation decks are reached by a glass-fronted lift and offer breathtaking views.

For shopping enthusiasts, there is the centrally located Eaton Centre which has over 300 stores, or alternatively, visit the waterfront area with its quaint shops and waterside restaurants.

Optional excursions include a full day visit to the spectacular Niagara Falls, a city tour of Toronto or an evening harbour cruise.

The holiday price includes:
• return scheduled flights between London Heathrow and Toronto
• transfers between the airport and your hotel
• three nights room only accommodation sharing a twin/double room
• portage at the hotel
• airport taxes
• services of a representative in Canada.

Telephone for a brochure on
0990 55 33 55

quoting The Times
or return coupon below to:
The Times Canadian City Break Offer,
Festive Holidays Limited, Pate Court,
North Place, Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire GL50 4DY

This holiday is operated by Festive Holidays Ltd,
a company independent of Times Newspapers Ltd.
ABTA V106X ATOL 2172

The Times
Canadian City Break Offer

Please forward me a brochure
Name (Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms) _____
Address _____
Post Code _____
☐ Please tick box if you do not wish to receive future offers from Times Newspapers or companies which may be of interest. TNN/TSW

USA CANADA

• Truck Coach Tours •
• Motorhomes • Self Drive Tours •
• Special Packages •
• 24/7 Emergency Support •
• 100% Satisfaction Guarantee •

0990 133 343

FLIGHT CENTRE

WORLDWIDE
DISCOUNT
FLIGHTS

ACCESS VISA WELCOME
DISCOUNTED INSURANCE
ATOL 3712

0181 669 8607

STA TRAVEL

WORLD LEADERS IN YOUNG INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

to	Costs vary on time of booking and season, quality of service, scheduled flights, etc.	to	Costs vary on time of booking and season, quality of service, scheduled flights, etc.
Paris	£90	Stockholm	£132
Amsterdam	£57	Cairo	£236
Geneva	£59	Washington	£156
Athens	£39	San Francisco	£219
Barcelona	£68	Toronto	£216

ROUND THE WORLD: FROM £668

VIRGIN ATLANTIC SPECIALS
New York & Boston - £156 - Los Angeles - £219

EUROPE: 0171 361 6161, WORLDWIDE: 0171 361 6282, 0161 854 0668 (Manchester)
ACCOMMODATION • CAR HIRE • INSURANCE AND OVERLAND TOURS: 0171 361 6168
117 Essex Road, N1 1LJ, 15 Old Broad Street, 11 Gough St, W1, London.
STA TRAVEL INFORMATION REQUEST LINE: 0171 361 6168

in touch

Come and see us at the
Independent Travelers World
24-25 Jan at
Royal Holloway
Uxbridge, London

Campus travel

Specialist in low cost travel
for students and young people
enjoying a great holiday
in Europe and the world

TELEPHONE BOOKINGS
LONDON - 0171 730 8111
WORLDWIDE - 0171 730 3482
EUROPE - 0171 730 2101
NORTH AMERICA - 0171 730 2494
EUROPE - 011 608 3503
MANCHESTER - 0161 273 1721
GLASGOW - 0141 553 1818

24 BRANCHES IN CAMBRIDGE AND
OPEN 24 HOURS 24/7 AT
24 GARDENERS SQUARE
LONDON W1C 2AB

WE provide a full range
of services for youth and
student travellers, including
airfares, visas,
travel insurance, low cost
accommodation, car hire,
ID cards, adventure tours...

TRAVEL ON SATURDAY

Four-page special on the delights of France, including Cap Ferrat, Corsica, camping in Brittany, horse riding in the Tarn and walking in the Pyrenees

TO	FROM
AMSTERDAM	£34.57
AUSTRALIA	£35.99
BANGKOK	£195.35
BEIJING	£199.38
BUDAPEST	£79.15
CARACAS	£240.39
DELHI	£219.39
DUBLIN	£30.60
ISTANBUL	£41.47
JOBURG	£256.40
LA SAN FRANCISCO	£131.21
MEXICO	£193.39
MILAN	£49.97
NAIROBI	£202.39
NEW YORK	£182.157
PARIS	£34.58
RIO	£207.38
SINGAPORE	£220.41
VIENNA	£75.97
ZURICH	£70.96

NOW AVAILABLE
BRUSSELS SPARS £89 plus
with an ITC card.
INTER RAIL - BUY ONE
GET A SECOND FOR 10 PRICE
OFFER VALID UNTIL MAY 97

ROUND THE WORLD
LONDON/BANGKOK/
SYDNEY/LOS ANGELES/
LONDON FROM £880

We provide a full range
of services for youth and
student travellers, including
airfares, visas,
travel insurance, low cost
accommodation, car hire,
ID cards, adventure tours...

Older brigade pulls rank in ratings

Babbar is the second-highest rated juvenile in the International Classifications

won the Derby. King George and Arc, the handicappers could rate him only on what he had achieved in beating rivals in only three starts as a three-year-old.



Just what punters are to make of the ratings, especially for two-year-olds and three-year-olds, is open to question, although Matthew Tester, the official assessor for the juveniles, made a pertinent remark. "When you are dealing with two-year-olds, ratings cannot tell you how good horses are; they can only tell you how bad they are not."

Two-year-olds		Three-year-olds		Older horses	
Reverge	125	Hellcat	134	Oger	13
Bahama	119	Mark O'Connell	133	Holding	12
Bahamas Bounty	119	Boatswain	131	Pantene	12
Majorian	119	Slip Away	130	Anabas	12
Encycell	118	Slip O'Drill	127	Soul Of The Matter	12
St. Louis	117	Swif	125	Alphabetic	12
In Command	117	Louis Quasford	125	Jewel Princess	12
Indian Rooster	112	Unbroken II Song	125	Flourish	12

THUNDER

1.30 Zoomeron	3.00 Miles
2.00 Milla	3.50 Doublewide Courier
2.30 Supreme Star	4.00 Star Talent

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.30 **COOLEM**.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.30 **CARROLLS MARC** (nap). 3.30

GAINS: STANDARD		DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST		SIS					
1.30 LITTLE ACORNS SELLING HANDICAP									
(22,224, 1m 40 (13 runners)									
181	(2)	020204-0	LADDIE 45 (6.5) (Jr) Potters R Jegan 7-9-1	5 Times	80				
182	(3)	500203-0	GARRODS 49 (5.0) (Jr) Denny R Jegan 5-8-1	6 Bred 7	84				
183	(1)	12580-0	CARROLLS 34M 27 (3.0) (F) J. Mearns C Mearns 9-3-1	0 Bred	94				
184	(2)	020203-0	PARADISE 45 (6.5) (Jr) Potters R Jegan 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
185	(1)	1042-0	AL HELA 9 (4.0) (Jr) J. Mearns C Mearns 9-3-1	0 Bred	94				
186	(7)	0022-0	SAPPHIRE 30M (7.5) (D) Potters R Jegan 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
187	(2)	0022-0	EXTREMELY FREELY 41 (4.0) (Jr) Potters R Jegan 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
188	(1)	020204-0	OCEAN 17 (5.0) (Jr) Potters R Jegan 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
189	(2)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
190	(2)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
191	(2)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
192	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
193	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
194	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
195	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
196	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
197	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
198	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
199	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
200	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
201	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
202	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
203	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
204	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
205	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
206	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
207	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
208	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
209	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
210	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
211	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
212	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
213	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
214	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
215	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
216	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
217	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
218	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
219	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
220	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
221	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
222	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
223	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
224	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
225	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
226	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
227	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
228	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
229	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
230	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
231	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE 6 (5) Tealby P Mearns 7-9-1	0 Bred	94				
232	(1)	04045-0	WARSITE						

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

HITTITIAN (see *Predicament*) 1st in 10-minute
 handicap over course and distance (1400) with
GUEST ALLSTAR (500 yards off 14-2nd in 12-
 seconds) and **Woottashambles** (500 yds in 12-
 second) arriving handily here (1400, 110 5/8).
WUTTASHAMBLES beat **GUEST ALLSTAR** 470
 distance (1400) in **THE MONKEY** 1540 3rd and 10 in
 10 seconds in handicap (1400) over course and
 distance to climber at Woottashambles (1400, 110
 7/8). **COLOUR COUNSELLOR** 1490 4th of 13 in 10
 seconds in handicap (1400) over course and
 distance to climber at Woottashambles (1400, 110
 7/8). **SAVING** 1540 3rd and 11 in 10 seconds in handicap
 over (1400, 110 7/8).
 SENSATION: **WUTTASHAMBLES**

COURSE
TRAINERS Woottashambles

RACELINE	
0930 1417	COMMENTARY

LOGGLOW 102 203
LINGFIELD 103 203
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

RESULTS

Wolverhampton

Going: standard

1.40 (1m 100yd) 1. **PRIGLO PRIMA** (S. Sanders, 7-4 fav); 2. **Evering in Paris** (W. Mewer, 5-2); 3. **Gold Lanzas** (D. Harrison, 7-1) **ALSO RAN:** 5-2 **Woodbury Lad** (Sh), 12 **Tautan** (4th), 16 **Little Murray**, 25 **Disny Diamond**, 33 **Tengo Man** (Sh) & 34 **Blackpool** (Sh).

2.10 (1m 4t) 1. GALAPINO (N Rimmer)
1.10 (1m 4t) 2. EURLINK The Lad (F Norton, 20)
3.1, 2. Zaidi J Quinn, 10-1; ALSO RAN 1st
4.10 1st Greenpeace (489), 7. Plotsie A
Dermott, 20; 2nd 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
LOW, Wadsworth, (80), 33 Apperances
Money, Miles The Beat 10 ran 51, 61, 21
131, 3164, G Bravery at Newmarket, Totals
£470, 71 40, £350, £220, 20; 2nd 1st
Tot £68 00 CBF: £454.54

2.40 (1m 4t) 1. OSPA BUFF A Whaling
1.10 (1m 4t) 2. BURNING (Whaling)
Indra (C Norton, 14-1); ALSO RAN 8
4.10 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
Derog (5th), Prophets Honour, 8 Out
A Promise, 14 At Liberty, Nikita's Star
(4th), 16 State Approval, 10 ran 11, 108
108, 108, 108, 108, 108, 108, 108
Whitcomb, Totals £590, 42, £330,
£505.40, £4670 CBF £727.21, 20; 2nd 1st
£808.44, Totals £30.10

3.10 (2m 4t) 1. GOLDEN HAIDER A
Clark, 47-48y; 2. Noutfen (F Lynch, 7-1)

33 At Hall, Classic Account (4th) 8 runs
NR Hazing Ground 4th, 3rd, 2nd, 1st, 4th
Ml Ryan at Newmarket (2nd) £1,000
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th
£15.00 C&P £6.49 Tricast £32.76

3.40 (51) 1. FIGURA (J Quinn, 5-2) 14w
Impenal Ground (S Downie, 3-1), 3, My
Girl (F Lynch, 16-1), All Roman 5-2 14w
10w Mamma's, 4 All For The Job
(14th), 12 Batsmen, Pairs, Gf, 29 14w
[Shi, 25 Pound's Hot Stuff 8 runs 15, 3
hnd, 14, 11 J.J. Harris at Melton Manor
2nd £4.00, 61.00, 31.00, 63.00, 67.00
£9.00 C&P £11.39]

4.10 (70) 1. FOT BATTALION (F Lynch, 14-1)
14w Ray (G Carter, 10-1), 3
Encanting Eye (J Bromfield, 6-1), 3
NR 11-4 low Nemoir Me Niclosay (4th)
3 Roma, 7-2 Enquire to Please (5th), 2
Advantage Negro (Gf) 7 runs 14w
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th
2nd £5.30, £1.90, £2.50, £2 £20.00
C&P £20.95

Pleacep: £208.70. Quadrap: £34.20

Optimistic

THE prospects for rating a Taunton today improved yesterday, but the meeting is still subject to a 7.45am inspection.

Should both meetings fall to the elements, it is all-weather racing to the rescue again, in the shape of Lingfield Park. The valuable meeting at Kempton tomorrow and Saturday needs a thaw to get ahead. But Peter McNeill, the clerk of the course, said yesterday that he was "quite hopeful" of racing.

LUDLOW: Trainers: R Curtis, 4 winners from 12 runners, 33.3%; N Henderson, 7 from 23, 30.4%; K Bailey 18 from 64, 28.1%; M Pipe 18 from 72, 25.0%. F

TAUNTON: Trainers: P Hobbs, 23 winners from 93 runners, 24.7%, M Pipe, 38 from 166, 22.9%, J Mullins, 3 from 16, 18.8%, G Edwards, 6 from 33, 18.2%, O Shenwood, 5

73. 19.2%; D Bridgewater 16 from 88
18.6%, N Williamson, 8 from 47. 17.0%, G
Torrey, 4 from 25. 16.0%

THUNDERER
1.10 Mr Darcy. 1.40 Denomination. 2.10 GO!
SPEED YOU (nap). 2.40 Scottish Bambi. 3.10
Queen's Award. 3.40 Jolly Boat. 4.10 Shebang.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES)
7.30AM INSPECTION

1.10 MARRSDROOK MAIDEN HURDLE

2	6	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
2	6	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
2	6	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
2	6	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
2	6	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
2	6	1	3	4	5	6	7																																																																																													

[illegible]

3.10 WELSHPOOL HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,528; 3m 21 1/2f) (12)

[illegible]

5 6306 MERRYHILL GOLD 70 J Cuts 6-11-5 Derek Byrne -
6 3346 WHITE DIAMOND 29 (V.F.S) Misc L Russell 9-11-5 M Foster 87
7 803 SHONOWN LILY 34 P Winkler 6-11-8 E Husband (3)

5-4 Arabian Gold, 3-1 Jolly Boat, 6-1 White Diamond, 10-1 others

4.10 WEATHERBY'S STARS OF TOMORROW

2	CERTAIN SHOT G McCourt 6-11-5	R Hobson (7)
3	ITS HARSH LIFE M Hammond 6-11-5	R Barnes (7)
4	JIMMIE C Jones 6-11-5	Mir L Lay
5	0-0 JUST ANDY 20 B Prance 6-11-5	Miss L Boswell (7)
6	32 KING OF THE BLUES 38 J King 5-17-5	M Griffiths (7)
7	MOUNTAIN STORM N Henderson 5-11-5	T Hagger (7)
8	2 SHEBANG 33 (BF) J Dunlop 5-11-5	Mir H Darnop (7)
9	WELSH ACCT J Thompson 6-11-5	Mr A McElroy (7)

12 JIM'S GUEST P Photos 4-10-7 74 Maran (7)
13 SOCIETY TIMES IN Pipe 4-10-7 6 Supple (7)
5-2 Shebang, 5-1 Mountain Storm, 4-1 Society Times, King Of The Blues, 7-1 others

THUNDER
1.20 Burlington Sam. 1.50 Contract Bridge. 2. Evangelica. 2.50 Edgemoor Prince. 3.20 Bridepot Rose. 3.50 Shift Again. 4.20 Glowing Path.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES)
7 45AM INSPECTION

1 20 LEVY BOARD JANUARY HANDICAP HURDL

1-2	2-1	3-2	4-3	5-4	6-5	7-6	8-7	9-8	10-9	11-10	12-11	13-12	14-13	15-14	16-15	17-16	18-17	19-18	20-19	21-20	22-21	23-22	24-23	25-24	26-25	27-26	28-27	29-28	30-29	31-30	32-31	33-32	34-33	35-34	36-35	37-36	38-37	39-38	40-39	41-40	42-41	43-42	44-43	45-44	46-45	47-46	48-47	49-48	50-49	51-50	52-51	53-52	54-53	55-54	56-55	57-56	58-57	59-58	60-59	61-60	62-61	63-62	64-63	65-64	66-65	67-66	68-67	69-68	70-69	71-70	72-71	73-72	74-73	75-74	76-75	77-76	78-77	79-78	80-79	81-80	82-81	83-82	84-83	85-84	86-85	87-86	88-87	89-88	90-89	91-90	92-91	93-92	94-93	95-94	96-95	97-96	98-97	99-98	100-99	101-100	102-101	103-102	104-103	105-104	106-105	107-106	108-107	109-108	110-109	111-110	112-111	113-112	114-113	115-114	116-115	117-116	118-117	119-118	120-119	121-120	122-121	123-122	124-123	125-124	126-125	127-126	128-127	129-128	130-129	131-130	132-131	133-132	134-133	135-134	136-135	137-136	138-137	139-138	140-139	141-140	142-141	143-142	144-143	145-144	146-145	147-146	148-147	149-148	150-149	151-150	152-151	153-152	154-153	155-154	156-155	157-156	158-157	159-158	160-159	161-160	162-161	163-162	164-163	165-164	166-165	167-166	168-167	169-168	170-169	171-170	172-171	173-172	174-173	175-174	176-175	177-176	178-177	179-178	180-179	181-180	182-181	183-182	184-183	185-184	186-185	187-186	188-187	189-188	190-189	191-190	192-191	193-192	194-193	195-194	196-195	197-196	198-197	199-198	200-199	201-200	202-201	203-202	204-203	205-204	206-205	207-206	208-207	209-208	210-209	211-210	212-211	213-212	214-213	215-214	216-215	217-216	218-217	219-218	220-219	221-220	222-221	223-222	224-223	225-224	226-225	227-226	228-227	229-228	230-229	231-230	232-231	233-232	234-233	235-234	236-235	237-236	238-237	239-238	240-239	241-240	242-241	243-242	244-243	245-244	246-245	247-246	248-247	249-248	250-249	251-250	252-251	253-252	254-253	255-254	256-255	257-256	258-257	259-258	260-259	261-260	262-261	263-262	264-263	265-264	266-265	267-266	268-267	269-268	270-269	271-270	272-271	273-272	274-273	275-274	276-275	277-276	278-277	279-278	280-279	281-280	282-281	283-282	284-283	285-284	286-285	287-286	288-287	289-288	290-289	291-290	292-291	293-292	294-293	295-294	296-295	297-296	298-297	299-298	300-299	301-300	302-301	303-302	304-303	305-304	306-305	307-306	308-307	309-308	310-309	311-310	312-311	313-312	314-313	315-314	316-315	317-316	318-317	319-318	320-319	321-320	322-321	323-322	324-323	325-324	326-325	327-326	328-327	329-328	330-329	331-330
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	--------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

[illegible]

7-4 Spring Lake, 2-1 Edgemoor Place, 8-1 In's Last, 12-1 Weather Waco, Eleanor Mace, 14-1 Market Mayhem, 20-1 others.

[illegible]

7	4P64	ATH CHANNINATH-43 (CO,F)	J Nevada	5-10-13	D Bridgman
9	U-P5	CHILD HEIGHTS 31 (B)	St Joseph	7-10-8	C Rios
9	FP43	COUNTRY MINISTER 29 S	Scrump	6-10-7	G Reas
10	PQ-4	LITTLE SHEFFORD 61 W	Murgesse	5-10-6	L Lawrence
11	552P	SKRAM 41 (F)	R Dicken	4-10-6	A Mague
12	6306	MILLING BROOK 27 J	Bradley	5-10-6	Michael Brennan
13	FP42	PARADE RACER 50 P	Murphy	6-10-3	W McFarlan
14	704	CONFLUENT AND 52 A	Dr. Thompson	5-10-0	Frank Andrews

4.20 CURLAND HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,750 2m 1f) (7)

1 1144 YUBRALEE 50 (GD F 6.5) 11 Pbe 5 11-10 A P Mc
2 000- LE KHOUWF 210F (F 6.5) 11 Nettle 5 11-6 J Osbo

6 643- CHANTY BEATH 706 (F) 1st Mar, 5- 0-3 17 1st Mar
7 3122- GLOWING PATH 29 (F) 1st Mar 10-0 18 1st Mar
3-1 Yankin 7-2 Fiddlers 4-1 1st Mar 10-0 19 1st Mar

CLIFTON FOX has been installed 14-1 favourite by Corbett for the Lincoln Handicap, run at Doncaster on March 22. However, he is not a certain runner in the first major Flat handicap of the season.

LINGFIELD PARK: 2.00 Medland. 2.50 Khalv. LUDLOW: 1.40 Premier Star. 2.40 Bold Ace. TAUNTON: 1.20 Nordic Breeze. 3.50 Chili Heights.

Figure 1. A schematic diagram of the experimental setup. The subject is seated in a chair and views the target through a video screen. The target is a light source that is controlled by a computer. The subject's hand is positioned over the target. The target is a light source that is controlled by a computer. The subject's hand is positioned over the target. The target is a light source that is controlled by a computer. The subject's hand is positioned over the target.



In a move that echoes the offer made by a South African businessman to his national team during the 1995 World Cup, also rejected by South Africa's management, Cellular World, a mobile telephone company, took a full-page advertisement in *The Irish Times* yesterday in which the offer was made to those who start the match on Saturday.

Ireland have not beaten the French since 1983, and have been forced by injury to adjust their replacements: Gary Halpin and Paul Burke have withdrawn from the squad and their places go to Paul Flavin, the Blackrock College prop, and David Humphreys, of London Irish, who won three caps at stand-off half last season.

Galthie, 27, damaged a wrist playing for Western Province after the 1995 World Cup and, when he came home, suffered an ankle injury. He made one appearance last year, as a replacement against Wales, but only this season has he recovered form and fitness sufficient to keep out Philippe Carboneau, who might otherwise have been

CHAMPIONSHIP

Scotland's preparations for the game at Murrayfield with Wales were disrupted when Gregor Townsend withdrew from practice after hurting a shoulder. Townsend, who captained Scotland before Christmas in the absence of Rob Wainwright, will be given every opportunity to recover while Ronnie Eriksson stands

The England team to play Scotland at Twickenham on February 1 will be announced

FRANCE: J-L Sadoumy (Colomiers), E Narmack (Toulouse), P Dourthe (Dax), T Castagnède (Toulouse), D Verdetti (Brive), A Ponsard (Brive), F Galéris (Colomiers), C Caliendo (Toulouse), M Dahmaso (Agen), F Tournadre (Narbonne), A Bonazzi (Agen, captain), O Merle (Montauban), E Merle (Toulouse), P Beniston (Agen), F Pelous (Dax), Rapiementaris, S Glas (Bourgnon), C Lusselmon (Brive), P Carboneau (Brive), R Castel (Béziers), J-L Jordani (Toulouse), R Ibanez (Dax)

Five of the best with everything to play for

Shaw combines the best of the old England with the excitement of the new

His will be a comfortable presence alongside young Arwel Thomas, but he will bring organisation to the Welsh midfield and an attacking threat, typified by the odd deft show of the ball and acceleration off the mark which will keep his support on its toes. In addition there is 15st 7lb of Gibbs, a solidity



Not only that, Gibbs and Bateman complement each other. In their former union existence neither played with each other: indeed it was Bateman's departure to Warrington that left the vacancy in 1991 for Gibbs, the younger man by nearly six years. If Gibbs is the showier player, it is Bateman who offers many

There may be those in Wales who believe that the other Scott, Quinnell, may become a nation's saviour but there are plenty of strong, hard, mobile forwards in the five nations. Wales will not dominate in that area so they need to exploit whatever chances come their way and that is where Gibbs and his colleagues are so important to the wide game which Kevin Bowring wants his team to play.

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Miller: good hands

Castajenede precious

Such responsibility on the small (5ft 9in) frame of a student, yet few doubt his capacity to accept it. He has played rugby since he was five, he has learnt well — not least by playing alongside the tricky Christophe Deylaud for Toulouse — and life is still an adventure. In such a state of mind, risks are merely the obvious things to take and Castaignède's capacity for the unexpected should light up the championship.

France" off Saturday, he will play No.8, the position in which he proved so impressive for Leicester against Harlequins just after Christmas.

Hard-nosed critics at Welford Road believe that his legs sometimes outrun his head, but there could be no better finishing school, Bob Dwyer, the club coach, and Ian Smith, his assistant, played their rugby in the back row. Miller — who has

Some might have opted out but Reed, for all that his international record reads only 11 caps in four years, has soldiered on. When he was picked to play against Italy last month he said: "Earlier this year I was wondering whether I would ever play again, let alone for my country." Yet here he is, scoring tries for Wasps in the first division and locking the Scotland pack which, it is easy to forget, he led during the 1994 season before moving on to captain the team that toured Argentina the same year.

It would be fair to say that Reed's demanding routines brought him the respect of his peers now, at 27, is in a position to influence significantly the work of the Scottish tight five. As *Wife No* he is not short of



This is where the Scots have so frequently fallen down, most notably against England. They have been unable to oppose force with force but in Reed — whose mother was born in Edinburgh and whose grandparents are Scottish, even if his own life has been lived entirely in England — they possess a skilled technician who can hold his own as a middle jumper and add some lift to the scrum. Reed will also offer Scotland greater security at the important area of restarts, which is sometimes overlooked by British teams. The most secure of punters, he will also challenge the opposition for possession in the same way that Martin Johnson does so effectively for England. As they have proved before, given a steady platform the Scotland backs can make opponents hop about and Reed should give just that

FOOTBALL: MANAGER ENJOYS WARM WELCOME AS HE CONDUCTS FIRST TRAINING SESSION AT NEWCASTLE

Dalglish puts the magic into practice

By ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THERE was no fog on the Tyne yesterday. And, while much of the country remained shrouded in mist, all was clear at St James' Park, Durham, where Kenny Dalglish made his debut in Newcastle United colours. He chose to train with the players on his first morning as managerial successor to Kevin Keegan.

As Dalglish, a man without ego, basked in the reception of 200 fans, Peter Beardsley, a player who may be the catalyst for Dalglish's immediate transition on Tyneside, was asked the inevitable question.

Beardsley was the player whom Keegan refused to drop, even at those times in the season when his energy levels inevitably drop. He was also the player left out by Dalglish when Dalglish was manager and Beardsley a player at Liverpool, and rumours have never ceased about the reasons for his omission.

Whatever the truth, Dalglish resigned from the pressures at Liverpool. Beardsley was shown the door by Graeme Souness, his replacement, and, yesterday, the media were asking Beardsley to make comparisons between Keegan and Dalglish.

"You can't do that, can't make comparisons," the Newcastle player and captain said. And then he did the closest thing to it, he put his finger on the point with the precision with which he delivers a through-pass for Alan Shearer. "The difference is that Kenny has won the championship four times as a manager."

It is as if Dalglish controls his own destiny, guides the clubs to which he is attached. And, yesterday, in a move to accelerate Newcastle's climb to the stock exchange by mid-March, while Dalglish trained, Newcastle city councillors, an MP and senior players were queuing up to be quoted in the city's *Evening Chronicle*, each and every one of them proclaiming that Sir John Hall and his board had made the right choice. Between morning and night, the projected flotation value had risen from £150 million to £200 million. If Dalglish were to quit now, the club, the speculators who are turning the game inexorably into business, would be winners.

Thank goodness, then, that whenever else drives Dalglish, he is first and foremost a football man, and a players' manager. Aside from Beardsley, whose rapport with the team and the supporters will surely bring harmony for a time between manager and captain. Shearer and David Batty were the sort of players Dalglish paid over the odds for, and then proved his point by winning the 1995 FA Cup Premiership at Blackburn Rovers.

Between Shearer and Dalglish, a common impulse, a winner-takes-all toughness, flows. Batty, who owes so much to Keegan, said: "Kevin leaving was a big blow to me. He resurrected my career, and I often wondered how many others would have come in for me like that after I was injured for so long. I just wish I could have spoken to him and thanked him, but there is no one better to replace him here than Kenny Dalglish."

So, the players who have known him, even through past imperfect days, endorse the words of the City man. To those players yet to learn the mysteries of Dalglish, yesterday was a gentle awakening. They saw the laughter, the joy which changes his personality as he runs for a return pass.

They may have felt his eyes on them, there and in the dressing room before last night's FA Cup third-round replay at St James' Park against Charlton Athletic. Dalglish is a contemplative man, a personality who uses silence as a television commentator, setting the whole picture tell the story.

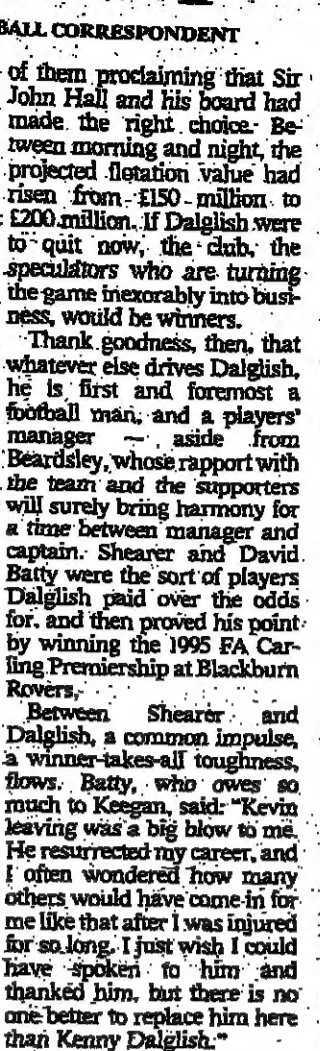
Somehow, and few players have been able to articulate this, he transmits his vision of the game into them. Indeed, his immediate job is to establish a feeling of calm, of trust, because in the final weeks of Keegan, some of the players did begin to doubt his ability to complete all that he had built. They doubted him — perhaps he was beginning to doubt them — and, through the inadequacies in defence, the league title so coveted for 70 years at Newcastle began to look remote despite the wonderful, cavalier skills in midfield and attack.

But tomorrow may bring changes. There is no time for easing in; we have seen Shearer show exasperation at David Ginola and the French flair player's lack of industry and team play. We have seen, as recently as the cup tie at Charlton which brought about last night's replay, the whole team look back, disillusioned, at their goalkeeper.

Pavel Srniczek was not playing that night, but wants to leave. Shaka Hislop, who let a 30-yard shot from Mark Kinsella through his hands, must now look over his shoulder. For Dalglish knows where to buy a goalkeeper.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.



Sunshine, and smiles from Dalglish in training yesterday, but Beardsley, left, still finds plenty to ponder

Somehow, and few players have been able to articulate this, he transmits his vision of the game into them. Indeed, his immediate job is to establish a feeling of calm, of trust, because in the final weeks of Keegan, some of the players did begin to doubt his ability to complete all that he had built. They doubted him — perhaps he was beginning to doubt them — and, through the inadequacies in defence, the league title so coveted for 70 years at Newcastle began to look remote despite the wonderful, cavalier skills in midfield and attack.

But tomorrow may bring changes. There is no time for easing in; we have seen Shearer show exasperation at David Ginola and the French flair player's lack of industry and team play. We have seen, as recently as the cup tie at Charlton which brought about last night's replay, the whole team look back, disillusioned, at their goalkeeper.

Pavel Srniczek was not playing that night, but wants to leave. Shaka Hislop, who let a 30-yard shot from Mark Kinsella through his hands, must now look over his shoulder. For Dalglish knows where to buy a goalkeeper.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.



Sunshine, and smiles from Dalglish in training yesterday, but Beardsley, left, still finds plenty to ponder

Somehow, and few players have been able to articulate this, he transmits his vision of the game into them. Indeed, his immediate job is to establish a feeling of calm, of trust, because in the final weeks of Keegan, some of the players did begin to doubt his ability to complete all that he had built. They doubted him — perhaps he was beginning to doubt them — and, through the inadequacies in defence, the league title so coveted for 70 years at Newcastle began to look remote despite the wonderful, cavalier skills in midfield and attack.

But tomorrow may bring changes. There is no time for easing in; we have seen Shearer show exasperation at David Ginola and the French flair player's lack of industry and team play. We have seen, as recently as the cup tie at Charlton which brought about last night's replay, the whole team look back, disillusioned, at their goalkeeper.

Pavel Srniczek was not playing that night, but wants to leave. Shaka Hislop, who let a 30-yard shot from Mark Kinsella through his hands, must now look over his shoulder. For Dalglish knows where to buy a goalkeeper.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

Somehow, and few players have been able to articulate this, he transmits his vision of the game into them. Indeed, his immediate job is to establish a feeling of calm, of trust, because in the final weeks of Keegan, some of the players did begin to doubt his ability to complete all that he had built. They doubted him — perhaps he was beginning to doubt them — and, through the inadequacies in defence, the league title so coveted for 70 years at Newcastle began to look remote despite the wonderful, cavalier skills in midfield and attack.

But tomorrow may bring changes. There is no time for easing in; we have seen Shearer show exasperation at David Ginola and the French flair player's lack of industry and team play. We have seen, as recently as the cup tie at Charlton which brought about last night's replay, the whole team look back, disillusioned, at their goalkeeper.

Pavel Srniczek was not playing that night, but wants to leave. Shaka Hislop, who let a 30-yard shot from Mark Kinsella through his hands, must now look over his shoulder. For Dalglish knows where to buy a goalkeeper.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

Somehow, and few players have been able to articulate this, he transmits his vision of the game into them. Indeed, his immediate job is to establish a feeling of calm, of trust, because in the final weeks of Keegan, some of the players did begin to doubt his ability to complete all that he had built. They doubted him — perhaps he was beginning to doubt them — and, through the inadequacies in defence, the league title so coveted for 70 years at Newcastle began to look remote despite the wonderful, cavalier skills in midfield and attack.

But tomorrow may bring changes. There is no time for easing in; we have seen Shearer show exasperation at David Ginola and the French flair player's lack of industry and team play. We have seen, as recently as the cup tie at Charlton which brought about last night's replay, the whole team look back, disillusioned, at their goalkeeper.

Pavel Srniczek was not playing that night, but wants to leave. Shaka Hislop, who let a 30-yard shot from Mark Kinsella through his hands, must now look over his shoulder. For Dalglish knows where to buy a goalkeeper.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

He could bid for Tim Flowers, proven under championship tensions at Blackburn, or for Shay Given, 20, the Ireland goalkeeper who many believe to be more talented than Flowers, and who becomes a free agent this summer.

Above all, it is a winner's mentality, a question of psychology, that could be worth Dalglish's £1 million salary to Newcastle. At Blackburn, he had a habit of not even telling Ray Harford, his deputy, of the line-up until an hour before kick-off. "It was part of Kenny's psychology to hit you late with the idea," Harford said.

Stadium snag fails to dampen Paris optimism

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

PARIS Saint-Germain must play their matches in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup in England next month because the Charley Stadium is unavailable. At least the team is in the competition, contrary to some reports. Indeed, optimism is high for the new season after agreements on marketing and live television coverage in France.

Paris laboured last year under several handicaps, notably a lack of sponsorship and a fierce media in the French capital. Discussions this week involving Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League (RFL) chief executive, and Harry Jepson, a fellow director, resulted in a new contract with Canal Plus for televising Paris's home games in the Stanes Super League.

Another agreement means the Paris Saint-Germain football club will lend the rugby league outfit its marketing operation. Without sponsorship and merchandising last year, the club was dependent on handouts and its allocation from the overall £87 million Super League deal. Although tickets will continue to be free to Parisians, the club can now attain a degree of financial independence.

Robert Elstone, the RFL executive responsible for the running of the club, said: "Free tickets are important in terms of selling the game in

Paris, but through the efforts of the PSG football club and increased media interest via television, we can attract sponsorship. There's already interest among several companies there and we also now have a definite commitment to stay at Charley."

It was feared at one stage that the club would have to move from the local authority-run, 20,000-seat Charley Stadium, on the southeast outskirts of Paris. The average attendance last year was a respectable 8,000. Attendances were at their worst in August, Parisians' traditional holiday month, so the home games against Halifax and Warrington that month are being switched to Narbonne and Biarritz, respectively.

One obvious difficulty is the Paris agreement's reluctance to accept a squad of 20 Australians and only three Frenchmen. The players assembled by Peter Mulholland, the club's new Australian coach, are in camp in Sydney and are due in Paris at the end of the month, a week before the 12 Super League clubs enter the fourth round of the Challenge Cup.

If given a home draw, Paris will play their fourth-round tie at a neutral venue in England. "We could surprise one or two sides," Elstone said. "We have the players now to make the top six."

SAILING

Dorset club seeking high profile

By EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT

AFTER a secretive start that led to rumour-mongering, the Royal Dorset Yacht Club America's Cup syndicate has broken cover this week with the announcement that it is to send a team to a mini-America's Cup regatta in early April.

The decision is part of a new strategy by Chris Witty and Angus Melrose, the syndicate's co-ordinators, to increase their profile as they continue to search for sponsors willing to put up between £15 and £20 million to fund a challenge for the Cup itself in three years' time.

Witty said that the new approach was intended to stem some of the more negative gossip and remind potential sponsors that they mean business. "It was an opportunity to break cover," he said. "By going to Auckland, we are going to show that the group does exist, but it doesn't mean that I've got £15 million in my back pocket."

Witty is confident that the syndicate will make it to the Cup, though he does not appear to be in advanced negotiations with a partner. He would not disclose who put up the £100,000 (about £60,000) challenge deposit paid on behalf of the Royal Dorset in May, or who would pay the costs for the mini-regatta. The next big commitment is the performance bond, around £250,000, which is due in the autumn.

The team going to Auckland is being led by Chris Law, with Chris Mason as crew co-ordinator and Andy Beardsworth, rumoured as the helmsman. They will race in the two New Zealand America's Cup class yachts that were built for the 1992 challenge.

SQUASH

Nicol elects not to defend title

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

PETER NICOL, the first Scot to win the British national squash championship, will not be defending his title in Manchester next week. Nicol has chosen to play instead in the Harford Cup in Connecticut, United States.

Nicol had an unhappy experience this week on the Manchester Northern Club courts that will host the British championship

Henman can light touch-paper of revival

Could Tim Henman be the spark that will at last set British tennis alight and send it blazing into the 21st century? And could this summer be the one that sees tennis coming home to Britain, where it all began 120 years ago?

It is a lot to ask of one 22-year-old but, on the showing of the past 12 months, and in particular his victory in the Sydney International and his progress in the Australian Open, this boyish-looking champion could be the missing link that is needed to turn our tennis from failure to success.

The annual flop of British tennis players at Wimbledon has long been one of the saddest fixtures of the summer. It is a mystery and a paradox: how can a sport that has been awash with money for years produce almost no national players who merit coverage beyond the first week of the Wimbledon fortnight?

Every year, the magic of Wimbledon captures a vast television audience worldwide, and pours ever-increasing millions into the coffers of the All England Club. Every year, more and more of the profits are channelled into the development of the game. And, every year, public interest seems to drop to zero as soon

as the championship is over. Although tennis has been provided with an infrastructure that is perhaps better than any other sport in the land, it has failed to produce winners. What it has lacked is inspirational local heroes. But Henman, with his career in fast-forward, could change all that.

Last weekend he became the first Briton for 95 years to win the Sydney men's singles title with his victory over Carlos Moya, of Spain. This catapulted him to No 14 in the world rankings. Only Roger Taylor, who reached No 11, has ranked higher among modern British players. You have to go back to Fred Perry in 1934 to find the last Briton to make the final in Sydney, and the last of our men to win it was Wilberforce Vaughan Eaves in 1902 — and he was born in Australia.

For the first time since Perry, people are beginning to dream of a British triumph in the men's singles at Wimbledon, and whatever happens to Henman when he takes on the second seed, Michael Chang, in the third round of the Australian Open tomorrow, he is already respected as a player of quality who will go on to win honours.

Tennis is in Henman's blood. His



family is straight out of tennis history. His great-grandmother, Ellen Stawell-Brown, was the first woman to serve overarm at Wimbledon; his grandmother, Susan, the last to serve underarm. Her husband, Henry Billington, reached the third round there in 1948, 1950 and 1951. Henman's parents, Tony and Jane, both played to county standard.

With his pedigree, Henman is just the man to inspire a new generation of players to make the best use of the extensive facilities that now exist in Britain. The game has never been better placed to take advantage of the enthusiasm that would follow the success of a home-grown player.

Over the past 20 years, the Lawn Tennis Association has relentlessly used the money that has gushed from the Wimbledon cash-fountain to invest in the grass roots of tennis. Ten

years ago, there were just 67 indoor courts in Britain. Today, there are 745, including 41 pay-and-play centres where you can walk in without needing to belong to a club.

Paid-up membership of the LTA has soared, too, from fewer than 12,000 in 1989 to almost 61,000 today. Few other sports in Britain are so well served with officials, development officers and local coaches. The commitment to junior tennis is vast, with the aim of coaching at least one million schoolchildren by 2001.

There are talent-spotting out on the playing fields and playgrounds looking for the Hemmans of the future. There is even a "Cliff Richard Tennis Trail" that is bringing the game to primary schools. Henman was selected by David Lloyd at 11 to undergo specialised coaching at Reeds boarding school in Cobham, Surrey.

But, despite this huge investment, Britain has struggled to match the rising standards of world tennis. Ian Peacock, chief executive of the LTA, once sadly observed that "Mark McCormack has shown how you turn talent into money, but no one has yet shown how you turn money into talent".

With the courts, the cash and the

coaches in place, all that is now needed is the example and inspiration of a role model such as Henman. History shows that British men have won Wimbledon 34 times in the 110 years of the Gentlemen's Singles Championships, but that it has been 60 years since the last Briton, Perry, raised the trophy on Centre Court.

These days, of course, the competition is tougher. No country finds it easy and you cannot buy success. Ask the Australians. Despite their love of sport and their much-heralded Institute of Sport, they seem to have lost the secret of winning the big ones in tennis.

From 1950 to 1980, 250 grand-slam singles titles were contested. Australia took 104 of them as players such as Rod Laver, Lew Hoad, Ken Rosewall and Margaret Court dominated. Since 1980, Australia has had just one grand-slam champion — Pat Cash, at Wimbledon, in 1987.

The way things are going, Australia, that once mighty tennis nation, could soon be casting envious eyes at us. For, with a few more wins to stoke the Henman effect, British tennis could capitalise on the Wimbledon millions and enjoy its biggest boom.

JOHN BRYANT

Crimebusting in the dock

Liberal Britain on Trial. Radio 4, 8pm.

Radio is unmatched among broadcast media for its ability to handle issues in a focused way. The ill-starred and unrepentant attempt to make *The Moral Maze*, an outstanding radio success, work on television demonstrated that polemical argument loses impact when voices are augmented by faces, not to mention hairstyles and ties. *Liberal Britain on Trial*, chaired by Nick Clarke, is another excellent example of the genre and tonight it debates, with expert witnesses for each side, the argument between a soft and a tough approach to crime. Journalist John Topley argues that cutting the interests of the criminal first has fostered crime while Judge Stephen Timmins, the former Chief Inspector of Prisons, takes the opposite view.

Bluegrass Comes Home. Radio 2, 10.00pm.

A new series in which Wally Whyton, the uncrowned king of country music presenters on radio, sets out on the trail of bluegrass music, one of those musical strands which has something in common with beauty impossible to define, yet you know it when you meet it. Bluegrass appears to have emerged during the 1940s through a fusion of mountain music, gospel, blues and jazz. The programme has plenty of musical interludes by way of illustration, including the music of Ricky Skaggs and the Nashville Bluegrass band. But, as with most things out of Tennessee, the spoken contributions are the real grabbers: they are in English, but not as we know it. Peter Barnard

TENNIS

Sampras hurt by ball change

By JOHN GOODBODY

PETE SAMPRAS and Boris Becker have complained that the slower balls being used at the Australian Open in Melbourne and other grand-slam events are leading to a greater incidence of wrist and arm injuries.

Slazenger, the manufacturer, has slightly altered the properties of the balls in recent years after a request by tournament organisers, who were worried that spectators were getting bored by the increasing emphasis on the serve-and-volley strategy of the modern game.

Becker, who lost to Carlos Moya, of Spain, in the first round in Melbourne, believes that the balls are now softer and Sampras is putting ice on his arm between matches to offset any strain.

Sampras, the world No 1 and top seed, said: "I haven't had arm trouble for a couple of years but my arm has been a little bit fatigued here. It's been feeling a little bit heavy the past few days and I think that is because of the balls."

Paul McNamee, the tournament director, insisted that the

balls were exactly the same as last year. Sampras and his fellow American, Jim Courier, twice a winner of the Australian Open, disagreed. Sampras said: "I have been playing this game for a lot of years and I can tell if the balls are different from year to year."

Dr Michael Turner, the chief medical adviser of the Lawn Tennis Association, yesterday doubted whether any marginal change could cause injuries. All balls have to conform to the parameters of the International Tennis Federation. These include being between 56.7 and 58.5 grams in weight and between 6.35cm and 6.67cm in diameter.

Dr Turner said: "I defy anyone to be able to tell the difference in weight between the minimum and maximum. We are talking about the weight of a sliver of foil, a wafer."

Slazenger has always de-

clined to say exactly how it has altered the balls to conform with the wishes of the tournament organisers.

Steffi Graf, the top seed and



Mary Pierce, of France, hits a forehand drive on the way to victory against Natalia Medvedeva in Melbourne

and world No 1, is playing in Melbourne under the shadow of the trial in Germany of her father, Peter, on charges of tax evasion involving about £8 million of his daughter's earnings between 1989 and 1993. The verdict is expected on January 24, hours before the women's singles final, and the prosecutors have asked that if

he is found guilty, he should serve six years and nine months in prison.

Graf, who yesterday beat Larissa Lileand, of Latvia, 7-5, 6-2, said afterwards: "I already knew when I came here when the ending of the trial would be and I am playing until I am done with this tournament."

Four exhausted doubles players took part in the longest set in the history of the event before Jon Ireland and Wayne Arthurs, of Australia, beat Cristian Brandi and Filippo Messori 6-3, 3-6, 29-27. The match lasted for four hours and 36 minutes. The previous record for a set in the men's doubles was 23-21 in 1990.

Play ended yesterday with another marathon. Michael Stich, a former Wimbledon champion and the No 15 seed, was knocked out by the unseeded Andrei Medvedev, from Ukraine, 6-4, 1-6, 2-6, 6-4, 7-9 in a match lasting nearly 3½ hours before it finished at close to 12.45am Australian time.

EVEREST'S JANUARY SALE • EVEREST'S JANUARY SALE

EVEREST'S JANUARY SALE • EVEREST'S JANUARY SALE • EVEREST'S JANUARY SALE

30% OFF

Everest's January Sale

Call us today for a warmer, quieter, more secure home

This January is the perfect time to invest in the best. Because you will get an amazing 30% off Everest's complete range of home improvement products - doors, windows, patio doors and

Roofline products.

First Choice Finance

If you want finance, we can also help. We offer an unsecured finance facility subject to status. Written details are available on request.

You only fit double glazing once, so fit the best - Everest.

* Off list price. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Different discounts apply to conservatories. Offer only available at time of quotation.

Call Free 0800 010123 please quote ref JAN785

Everest

Everest House, FREEPOST, Cuffley, Hertfordshire EN6 4YA.

Postcode

CALL TODAY

Answers from page 33

PAKORECA

(a) A perverted appetite or craving for strange foods. Following the conditions of (a) the adolescent becomes a "Don't be like that Dad. Have you never seen a two-minute baked beans and tomato ketchup toaster before?" And (b) the gastronomic paragon: "I have found this wonderful little Welsh bistro. My dear, their hedgehog marinated in quince sauce with just a spot more garlic than usual - quite delicious"

BUNDOBEST

(a) Arrangements, organisation. Anglo-Indian jargon from the Hindi word *bund*, meaning and binding. This is a word trading name for a company specialising in fitting the Universal Bundobest Removals and Storage Company.

SOPHOMANIA

(a) A delusional state in which the sufferer believes that she or he is a person of exceptional intelligence. The normal therapeutic procedure is for the sufferer to write a letter to the editor of *The Times* on a subject of current controversy. This invariably induces members of other societies to write to the editor, telling the original sufferer what a fool he is. If this therapy fails, the sufferer may be doomed to end his days as an economist.

SOTERIAL

(a) Pertaining to salvation. From the New Testament Greek jargon of *soteria* salvation. So soteriology is the theological doctrine and study of salvation. "Leadbetter, you are the walking refutation of soteriology."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rax2 wins a piece as if 1... Rax2 Qx3 Rxb (or anywhere else) 3 Qxb6 and mate follows.

GIFT IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS PRICES INCLUDE DELIVERY TO EU CUSTOMERS (JUST OUTSIDE THE WORLD AND EU CUSTOMERS). SEND FOR FURTHER DETAILS: STERLING LITERATURE, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

RADIO 1

7.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wogan 10.00am 9.15 Pausa for Thought 1.30pm Ken Bruce 2.00pm Sunday Young 3.00pm Radio 2 4.00 Radio 2 5.00 Radio 2 6.00 Radio 2 7.00 Radio 2 8.00 Radio 2 9.00 Radio 2 10.00 Radio 2 11.00 Radio 2 12.00 Radio 2

RADIO 3 LIVE

5.00am Morning Report 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 7.00 The Midday Show 8.00 Radio 3 9.00 Radio 3 10.00 Radio 3 11.00 Radio 3 12.00 Radio 3

TALK RADIO

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 5

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 4

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 5

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 4

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 5

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 4

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 5

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 4

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 5

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 4

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 5

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 4

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 5

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 4

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 5

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.00pm Radio 1 8.00 Radio 1 9.00 Radio 1 10.00 Radio 1 11.00 Radio 1 12.00 Radio 1

RADIO 4

6.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nick Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 6.00 Sunday Young 7.0



CRICKET 38

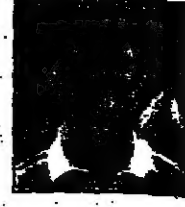
Hussain puts poor run of form behind him with century

SPORT

THURSDAY JANUARY 16 1997

RUGBY UNION 40

France ring changes at scrum-half by recalling Galthié



Briton primed to play match of his life against second-seeded American

Henman plots aggressive way forward

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN MELBOURNE

TIM HENMAN claims, without exaggeration, that he is playing the best tennis of his life. Tomorrow, when he challenges Michael Chang for a place in the quarter-finals of the Australian Open, people will know just how good his best is. If he beats the man seeded second behind Pete Sampras, he is entitled to think that he is scholarship material.

In and out of the rain yesterday, he outclassed Guillaume Raoux, of France, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 to set up a meeting he is eagerly awaiting. "The way to beat him," Henman said, "is to be aggressive. I make errors, but I have nothing to lose. He is the No 2 player in the world and I am going to go out there and give it everything." Now Henman must underline those fine words with deeds.

Raoux, gracious in defeat, saw enough from the other end of the court to supply an unconditional endorsement. "All the rubbish has been cleared out of his game," he said. "He can certainly worry Chang. He uses 100 per cent of his potential and has a great feeling for matchplay." If he stays away from drink and drugs, the Frenchman said, somewhat perplexingly, he can go all the way.

The main obstacle to

Henman's progress yesterday was the variable weather, for which Melbourne is famous. The heat of the first two days gave way to windy conditions and, when the rain came during the fifth game of the first set, with Henman leading 3-1, the players were driven off court for two hours. It failed to break the Englishman's concentration, for he won the first set in 31 minutes, and resolved the next two without much argument.

The clinical manner of



Chang: serving better

Henman's victory impressed his coach, David Felgate. "Tim had a job to do and did it," Felgate said. "It was delightful to watch him give one of his best displays in a grand-slam event."

Jeremy Bates, whom Henman succeeded as British No 1, and David Lloyd were in the crowd, as was a platoon from the tennis equivalent of the Barry Army. They were ready to cheer every point and, when the players were off court, they were more than happy to direct the waving and "humorous" chanting. Overall, though, they were in order. Should Henman reach the final, there will probably be a company out here.

Henman was not complaining about their conduct. "It was a great atmosphere. It's a bit different from Wimbledon, people are more vocal with the songs. When you are playing, you hit a good shot, glance at the crowd, and they respond. It gives you a big lift."

He has now won 11 out of 12 matches this year, losing only to Jim Courier in the final of the Qatar Open and winning his first ATP title, and is still pinching himself at the transformation that has taken place. "The last 2½ weeks have flown by," Henman said. "It doesn't seem so long since I was getting off the plane in Doha, but it is not in my nature to get carried away with things."

He is the first British player to reach the third round of this tournament since Bates lost to Pat Cash in 1989. Ahead of him lies the achievement of John Lloyd, who contested the final against Vitas Gerulaitis 20 years ago, and he appears to be coping sensibly with the growing sense of expectation. In his public pronouncements he has a very English sense of understatement but now, after his success in Sydney last weekend, even journalists from other countries are beginning to pay attention.

Henman recalled yesterday that, when Chang won the French Open in 1989, he was playing in a "minor tournament" in Italy. "He serves a lot better than he used to, but I feel that, if I can be aggressive, then I can be the dictator." Unfortunately, his Oxonian manner contradicts this attempt at bluster. Henman is no more a dictator than a conductor clipping tickets on the last bus to Woodstock.



Henman drives a high forehand during his summary dismissal of Raoux in the second round yesterday

Chang, a 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 victor over Richey Reneberg yesterday, was the beaten finalist here last year and is attempting to win his first grand-slam title since the French Open in 1989. However, Henman is confident he has a good chance when the two meet for the first time tomorrow.

"It is a confidence thing and obviously, having won seven matches in a row, I feel confident," Henman said. "But you can't take that for granted. You have to keep working on your game from day to day. The conditions today were not favourable but it was a case of going out there

and getting on with it. I was able to keep the momentum going from set to set. I don't think my preparation (for Chang) can be any better. If I continue serving in the same form, I stand a good chance."

Bryan's Eye, page 42
Unhappy Sampras, page 42

Arsenal tempt teenager from French

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

ARSENAL have signed Nicolas Anelka, the young Paris Saint-Germain striker. Though virtually unknown in England, he is highly rated in France and his progress has been closely monitored by Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, for several months. Anelka, 17, will join the north London club at the end of the season on a two-year contract with a further two-year option. He has been unhappy with his limited first-team opportunities at Saint-Germain, for whom he has scored only one goal this season — against Lens in September.

"People don't show enough confidence in me," he said. "In France, there are other young players who play in the big teams. They've had their chance. I'm the only one who has played in only one full match. I'm not leaving for the money; I'm leaving to play."

Wenger has apparently promised Anelka a leading role in the side next season. "I have been assured that I would be on level terms with the other forwards," the French teenager said. Perhaps Ian Wright, Dennis Bergkamp and John Hartson will have differing views.

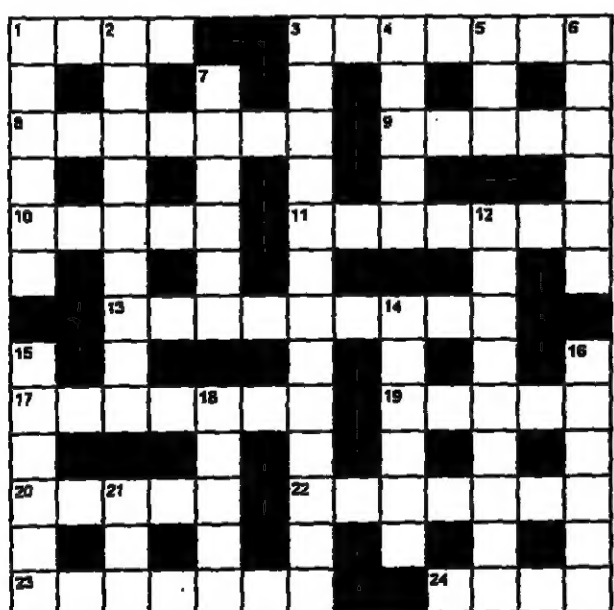
The French club had offered Anelka a six-year contract but he turned it down. Once Wenger made his interest known, French Football Federation regulations state that an apprentice must sign his first professional contract with his first club, but there is no such law governing the movement of players between European clubs. As yet, no fee for the move to Highbury has been agreed.

West Ham United are still hoping to sell Florin Radu, their Romanian forward, back to Espanol, of Spain. They were trying to push through the deal last night before the Spanish transfer "window" closed for the season.

If the deal went through successfully, it would give West Ham extra bargaining power in their attempts to sign Pierre van Hooijdonk, the Holland and Celtic striker. Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, watched van Hooijdonk play for Celtic in their 2-1 win against Raith Rovers on Tuesday night, but has yet to make a firm offer.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 992 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS

- 1 An army: a party-giver (4)
- 3 Small falcon (7)
- 8 Prince, chose gold casket (M of V) (7)
- 9 Eg potato root (5)
- 10 Name (of eg book) (5)
- 11 Engagingly attractive (7)
- 13 Gangster chief (9)
- 17 Rips veil off (7)
- 19 A parable: worse (anag.) (5)
- 20 Chinese black/white animal (5)
- 22 Tribal chief (7)
- 23 Member of white-rope party (7)
- 24 Reverse effects of (4)

DOWN

- 1,15 Egg that sat on a wall (6,6)
- 2 Floy (9)
- 3 Be worldly wise (4,5,4)
- 4 The Devil (5)
- 5 Difficulty: polish (3)
- 6 Panty (6)
- 7 Smooth cement floor (6)
- 12 Lady rower (9)
- 14 Light cavalryman (6)
- 15 See 1 dn
- 16 Untamed (US) horse (6)
- 18 Hindu holy man (5)
- 21 And not (9)

British Midland The Airline for Europe

PRIZES: THE WINNER will receive a return ticket travelling Economy Class to anywhere on British Midland's domestic or international network.

THE RUNNER-UP will receive a return ticket to anywhere on British Midland's domestic network. British Midland offers an extensive range of destinations throughout the UK as well as Europe. With over 1,400 flights a week to 18 European destinations British Midland are the Airline for Europe.

All flights are subject to availability.

Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6586, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address

SOLUTION TO NO 991

ACROSS: 1 Rhapody 5 Echo 8 Platform 9 Mast 11 Asile 12 Sponsor 13 Labial 15 Censor 18 Panacea 19 Oiler 21 Ally 22 Insecure 23 Taxi 24 Analysis
DOWN: 1 Raphael 2 Anxious 3 Suffrance 4 Diness 6 Chassis 7 Oiler 10 Come to heel 14 Belux 16 Reprise 17 Cannon 18 Flait 20 Louis

Clubs angered by postponements

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

CLUBS, managers and supporters were left incensed again last night when two more FA Cup matches were called off at the last moment. West Ham United's third-round replay against Wrexham at Upton Park was cancelled because of fog with less than two hours to kick-off. Supporters travelling to Woking's delayed third-round tie against Coventry City at Highfield Road had only 55 minutes' notice before their match was postponed because of a frozen pitch. Gerald Ashby, the match referee, decided that the surface would not last for the full duration after being informed that the temperatures were likely to drop further.

On Tuesday night, Manchester City's game against Brentford at Griffin Park was called off at 5.30pm. Many City supporters were already outside the ground and, yesterday, City lodged a formal complaint with the Football Association.

Bernard Halford, the City secretary, said: "There should have been more consideration given to the prevailing weather conditions and also to the travelling fans who had to travel long distances." Mick Fletcher, the match referee, left his home in West Bromwich at 3pm. He arrived

at the ground three hours before kick-off but, after two inspections, called it off. "When I left home, I was told the pitch was playable. I don't think Brentford were anticipating the temperature would drop so severely. I looked at the pitch at 5.30 and one side was badly affected by frost. I appreciate the fans had travelled a long way but players' safety is first on the agenda."

With little sign of a let-up in the bad weather, the FA Cup fourth round has been thrown into logistical chaos. Some third-round ties will not be completed before January 25 — the date of the fourth round — and, already, two fourth-round matches, still dependent on delayed matches and replays to determine the opponents, have been put back to February 4.

The Brentford-Manchester City game will now be played on January 25, as will the replay between Leeds United and Crystal Palace, who drew 2-2 at the first attempt. The delayed third-round games featuring Luton Town v Bolton Wanderers and Watford v Oxford United, plus the re-staging of the abandoned match between Gillingham and Derby County, will go ahead next Tuesday. If replays are required, they will also be on January 25.

Strachan plans to punish Dublin

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

DION DUBLIN, of Coventry City, is to be disciplined by the club after being sent off in successive FA Cup Premier League matches. Dublin has been suspended for seven matches by the FA after being dismissed against Sunderland at Highfield Road and at Blackburn Rovers on Saturday.

Dublin, who has been switched to the centre of defence from his customary forward role recently, has upset Gordon Strachan, the Coventry manager, with the nature of the offences. Against Sunderland he was dismissed for retaliation and against Blackburn for a reckless challenge on Henning Berg.

Strachan said: "He has put me in a position where I will have to take some disciplinary action. I haven't decided what and I won't be in a hurry." Middlesbrough are still considering whether to appeal over the three-point deduction imposed upon them by a Premier League inquiry into the postponement of the game against Blackburn Rovers. The club will not make a decision until it has read the report of the disciplinary commission.

Bryan Robson, the manager, said: "I think it is the harshest sentence they could possibly have given us. We

will wait for the report of the hearing to come through and we will make a decision once we have read it."

Middlesbrough council has passed an emergency resolution, urging the Premier League to reconsider their decision. Councillor John Jones said: "Tickets for Premier League matches are expensive. Supporters should expect to see the best both sides can offer."

Fabrizio Ravanelli, the Middlesbrough forward, insisted yesterday that reports from Italy suggesting he had said the club was certain to be relegated had been exaggerated. "Middlesbrough are in a bad situation because we are at the bottom of the table. But I did not say anything about relegation," Ravanelli said.

Chelsea yesterday admitted making an inquiry about Paolo Maldini, the AC Milan defender, but laughed off suggestions of a £17 million bid for the player. Colin Hutchinson, the Chelsea managing director, said the approach had been "tongue in cheek".

Claus Thomsen, the Denmark midfielder, will join Everton from Ipswich Town for £900,000 today. Bradford City completed the signing of Gordon Watson, the forward, from Southampton for a club record £550,000 yesterday.

Unforgettable girls' blouses

Best Selling Premium Cask Ale Since 1777